

Bulletin of the

January 2000

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M E R I C A N

IRIS SOCIETY



The Hybridizers Speak

See related articles beginning on page 52.



Photo: Aitken

WILD WINGS (Keppel '99), TB



Photo: Aitken

FJORD (R. Nelson '96), TB

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Editor: Terry Aitken, 608 NW 119th St., Vancouver WA 98685-3802; <aitken@e-z.net>
Advertising Editor: Harold Peters, 2048 Hickock Rd, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762
Photo Team: Robert Plank, 8426 Vine Valley Drive, Sun Valley, CA 91352-3656
Scientific Editor: Adele Lawyer, 4333 Oak Hill Road, Oakland, CA 94605-4523
Layout & Graphic Design: Scott Aitken, *Flash Graphic Design*,
 2760 NE 98 St, Seattle WA 98115-2447; <zebra@chcs.com>

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Membership, Dues, Missing Bulletins: Marilyn Harlow, PO Box 55, Freedom CA 95019-0055. (831) 722-1810, 9:00AM – 6:00PM Pacific Coast Time

Business matters of the Society:

Sara R. Marley, 13358 Sagle Rd., Purcellville, VA 20132-1827. (540) 668-9004.

Bulletin advertising: Harold Peters, Advertising Editor, (916) 933-3804

2048 Hickok Rd, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762, email: <Harold@directcon.net>

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AIS Bulletin

Table of Contents

Regular Features:

Page 3	Officers & Committee Chairpeople
Page 5	AIS Sections
Page 6	Regions & Regional Vice Presidents
Page 7	President's Message, <i>Clarence Mahan</i>
Page 9	Editor's Message, <i>Terry Aitken</i>
Page 11	Youth Views, <i>Jean Morris</i>
Page 13	International News, <i>George & Margaret Sutton, Bruce Filardi</i>
Page 118	Official AIS Storefront
Page 120	AIS Slides For Rent
Page 121	AIS Bulletin Advertising Rates
Page 122	Shopping Section

Articles:

Page 17	International Cooperation, <i>Milan Blazek</i>
Page 22	Destiny Dallas 2000 Convention Update
Page 23	Convention Silent Auction, <i>Maxine Perkins</i>
Page 24	Siberian Convention
Page 25	HIPS Convention
Page 26	Future Conventions Schedule
Page 27	Meet the New RVPs
Page 48	Northwest Arilbreds, <i>Marky Smith</i>
Page 52	Hybridizers Speak: Recent Introductions, <i>Bruce Filardi</i>
Page 57	Hybridizers Speak: Introductions for 2000, <i>Bruce Filardi</i>
Page 61	Variegated Foliage, <i>Jean Witt, Ginney & Don Spoon, Rick Tasco & Roger Duncan, Brad Kasperek, John Weiler, Terry Aitken</i>
Page 77	Design Corner, <i>Carolyn Hawkins</i>
Page 79	Flight Lines, <i>Barbara Figge</i>
Page 83	Favorite Siberian & Japanese Iris
Page 84	Postal, Statement of Ownership
Page 85	Approved AIS Judges, <i>Ron Mullin</i>
Page 92	New Emeritus Judges
Page 93	Exhibition Committee Report, <i>E. Roy Epperson</i>
Page 94	Shows: AIS, Artistic, Youth, Displays
Page 103	Exhibition Certificates
Page 105	High Commendation Awards
Page 106	Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
Page 116	AIS Foundation Donations

The American Iris Society

Officers & Committee Chairpeople

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY IS A NONPROFIT INSTITUTION INCORPORATED FEBRUARY 2, 1927, IN the County of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania. By the terms of the Charter, the Corporation has no stockholders and exists for the sole purpose of promoting the culture and improvement of the *Iris*.

Officers:

President: Clarence Mahan <CEMahana@aol.com>
7311 Churchill Road, McLean, VA 22101, (703) 893-8526

First Vice President: Terry Aitken <aitken@e-z.net>
608 NW 119th St., Vancouver, WA, 98685-3802 (360) 573-4472

Second Vice President: Jeanne Clay Plank <PlankMail@aol.com>
8426 Vine Valley Drive, Sun Valley, CA 91352-3656, (818) 767-5512

Secretary: Sara R. Marley <digger@anent.com>
13358 Sagle Rd, Purcellville, VA 20132-1827, (540) 668-9004

Treasurer: Jay Hudson <irishud@mcn.org>
33450 Little Valley Rd., Fort Bragg, CA 95437, (707) 964-3907

Editor: Terry Aitken, <aitken@e-z.net> (360) 573-4472
608 NW 119th St., Vancouver WA 98685-3802, Fax (360) 576-7012

Administrative Officers:

Registrar: Keith Keppel, PO Box 18154, Salem, OR 97305, (503) 391-9241

Membership Secretary: Marilyn Harlow <103262.1512@compuserve.com>
PO Box 55, Freedom, CA 95019-0055, (831) 722-1810

Recording Secretary: Anne Lowe <mlowe@worldiris.com>
12219 Zilles Rd., Blackstone, VA 23824, (804) 265-8198

Publication Sales Director: Irv & Nancy Pocklington
609 Harrington St, Carlinville, IL 62626-1230, (217) 854-2184

Ombudsman: Lew Begley <lewgeo@aol.com>
1930 Wilkinson Rd., Mesquite, TX 75181-2204, (972) 289-7107

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- Awards:* Farron Campbell, (972) 240-4016
5637 Saddleback Rd., Garland, TX 75043, <Dennfarr@aol.com>
- Calendar:* Olive Rice-Waters, 1914 Napa Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94707, (510) 526-2853
- Convention Liaison:* Paul W. Gossett, (918) 745-0852
1708 E. 53rd St., Tulsa, OK 74105-5726, <Pwgossett@aol.com>
- Electronic Services:* John I. Jones, (510) 795-9723
35572 Linda Dr, Fremont, CA 94536-1523, <jijones@ix.netcom.com>
- Exhibitions:* E. Roy Epperson, (336) 883-9677
1115 Delk Dr., High Point, NC 27262, <epperson@acme.highpoint.edu>
- Foundation Liaison:* Roger P. Mazur, 5824 Erskine #7, Omaha, NE 68104
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- Insurance:* Michelle Snyder w: (213) 430-4370, h: (818) 352-7018
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- Judges Handbook Revision Committee:* E. Roy Epperson, (336) 883-9677
1115 Delk Dr., High Point, NC 27262, <epperson@acme.highpoint.edu>
- Library:* Keith McNames, 7711 Pries Dr, Salem, OR 97303, (503) 463-1875 <k2iris2@aol.com>
- Membership Contest:* Lynda Miller, 12788 E. 191st, Noblesville, IN 46060, (317) 776-0323
- Policy:* Mike Lowe, (804) 265-8198
12219 Zilles Road, Blackstone, VA 23824, <mlowe@worldiris.com>
- Public Relations:* Kathy Guest (716) 655-1762
494 North St., East Aurora, NY 14052-1446, <Irisborer@aol.com>
- Rare Iris Study Center:* Jim Waddick, 8871 NW Brostrom, Kansas City MO 64152
- Registrations:* Keith Keppel, PO Box 18154, Salem, OR 97305, (503) 391-9241
Send all registration applications, and \$7.50 payable to AIS, to Keith Keppel.
- Robins:* Libby Cross, (540) 747-2123
8907 Potts Creek Road, Covington, VA 24426, <LibCross@aol.com>
- RVP Counselor:* Barbara Figge, (505) 881-3859
6805 Kentucky Ct NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110, <irisone@juno.com>
- Scientific:* Dr. Chandler Fulton, (617) 891-4015
21 Hillcrest Road, Weston, MA 02193, <FULTON@binah.cc.brandeis.edu>
- Scholarship:* Dr. John J. Taylor (602) 759-3128
1421 W. University Heights Dr S, Flagstaff, AZ 86001-8921, <jjtaylor@www4.net>
- Secretary of Donations:* Jeanne Clay Plank, (818) 767-5512
8426 Vine Valley Drive, Sun Valley, CA 91352-3656, <PlankMail@aol.com>
- Section Liaison:* Riley Probst, (314) 822-2485
418 N. Van Buren, St. Louis, MO 63122, <riley.probst@mkg.com>
- Silent Auction:* Maxine Perkins
PO Box 494, Mesilla Park, NM 88047-0494, (505) 524-1529
- Slides:* Hooker Nichols, 3365 Northaven Rd., Dallas, TX 75229, (214) 352-2191
- Symposium:* Gerry Snyder, (818) 352-7018
7855 Ellenbogen St, Sunland, CA 91040, <gcsnyd@loop.com>
- Webmaster:* Scott Aitken, 2760 NE 98 St, Seattle, WA 98115, (206) 517-5940 <zebra@chcs.com>
- Youth:* Jean Morris, (314) 256-3927
682 Huntley Heights, Ballwin MO 63021, <morrisje1@aol.com>

AIS Sections: (1st line = Presidents, 2nd line = Memberships)

Median Iris Society:

Dorothy Willott, 26231 Shaker Blvd, Beachwood, OH 44122. <DWiris@aol.com>
 Rita Gormley, 6717 Martha Dr., Cedar Hill, MO 63026

Society for Siberian Irises:

Tom Abrego, PO Box 693, Newberg, OR 97132. <Bhuz@teleport.com>
 Howard Brookins, N 75 W14257 North Point Dr., Menomonee Falls, WI 53051-4325

Spuria Iris Society:

Everett Lineberger, 2460 Compton Bridge Rd., Inman, SC 29349

Society for Japanese Irises:

Terry Aitken, 608 NW 119 St., Vancouver, WA 98685. <aitken@e-z.net>
 Robert Bauer, 9823 E. Michigan Ave, Galesburg, MI 49053

Reblooming Iris Society:

Charlie Brown, 3114 S. FM 131, Denison, TX 75020. <broiris8@airmail.net>

Dwarf Iris Society:

Brad Kasperek, 9130 North 5200 West, Elwood UT 84337-8640. <zebrairis1@aol.com>
 Lynda Miller, 12788 E. 191st, Noblesville, IN 46060

Society for Pacific Coast Native Irises:

Jay Hudson, 33450 Little Valley Rd., Fort Bragg, CA 95437. <irishud@mcn.org>
 Terry Hudson, 33450 Little Valley Rd., Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Species Iris Group of North America (SIGNA):

Carla Lankow, 11118 169th Ave SE, Renton, WA 98059. <lankow@bigfoot.com>
 Rodney Barton, 3 Wolters St., Hickory Creek TX 75065

Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS):

Joe Spears, 910 Pioneer Cr, Argyle TX 76226. <argliris@gte.net>
 Andrée Desirée Wilson, 15 Bracebridge Rd, Newton Centre, MA 02459

Cooperating Societies:

Aril Society International:

Scott W. Jordan, 3500 Avenida Charada Ave. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107
 Reita Jordan, 3500 Avenida Charada Ave. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107

Society for Louisiana Irises:

Farron Campbell, 5637 Saddleback Rd., Garland, TX 95043
 Elaine Bourque, 514 Garenne Rd, Lafayette, LA 70508

<i>Section Membership Rates:</i>	single annual	single triennial	dual annual	dual triennial
Median Iris Society (Overseas members add \$5 per year for postage)	\$5.50	15.00	6.50	17.50
Society for Siberian Iris	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00
Spuria Iris Society	6.00	15.00	8.00	18.00
Society for Japanese Iris	3.50	9.00	4.00	10.50
Reblooming Iris Society	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00
Society for PCNs	6.00	15.00	8.00	18.00
Species Iris Group	5.00	12.00	6.00	15.00
Dwarf Iris Society	4.50	12.00	6.75	18.00
Historic Iris Preservation Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	15.00
Aril Society International	10.00	28.00	13.50	33.50
Society for Louisiana Irises	7.50	18.00	9.00	22.50

Regions & Regional Vice Presidents

1: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island:

Ada Godfrey, 9 Bradford St., Foxborough, MA 02035, (508) 543-2711, <hnmwalk@ici.net>

2: New York:

Peter Weixlmann, 280 Seneca Creek Rd, West Seneca, NY 14224, (716) 674-6289, <Pweixl@aol.com>

3: Pennsylvania and Delaware:

Vincent Lewonski, 509 S. Bishop Ave, Secane, PA 19018-2903, (610) 623-3921 <VinceLewonski@yahoo.com>

4: Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, and North Carolina:

JaNiece Mull, 7112 Fox's Lair Ct, Norfolk VA 23518-4435, (757) 858-5521, <RegionIVMULL@aol.com>

5: South Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Puerto Rico:

Randell Bowen, 528 Forest Ridge Dr., Shelby, NC 28152, (704) 434-6118 <RBowen@shelby.net>

6: Ohio, Indiana and Michigan:

Howard Hughes, 210 Parkway, Lapeer MI 48446, (810) 664-5525 <mcgiris@tir.com>

7: Tennessee and Kentucky:

Eleanor M. Boyson, 3811 Hwy 49E, Charlotte TN 37036-5929, (615) 789-5623

8: Minnesota and Wisconsin:

Edwin W. Kelsey, W. 9155 Schofield Rd., Poynette WI 53955, (608) 635-7169

9: Illinois:

Orville Dickhaut, 102 Sherwood, Carlinville IL 62626, (217) 854-3418

10: Louisiana:

Elaine Bourque, 514 Garenne Rd, Lafayette, LA 70508, (318) 865-5859

11: Idaho, Montana and Wyoming:

Carryl Meyer, 2532 Highwood Dr, Missoula, MT 59803, (406) 251-5800 <carrylm@bigsky.net>

12: Utah:

Leon Robertson, 6161 Mount Vernon Dr, Murray UT 84107-7631, (801) 266-4791 <L.Robertson@m.cc.utah.edu>

13: Washington, Oregon and Alaska:

John Ludi, 35071 SE Hwy 211, Boring OR 97009-9584, (503) 668-9230 <kludi@juno.com>

14: Northern California, Nevada and Hawaii:

Kitty Loberg, 1900 Mountain View Ln., Redwood Valley, CA 95470, (707) 485-7907 <loberg@jps.net>

15: Southern California and Arizona:

Gail Barnhill, 9651 E. Watson, Tucson AZ 85730, (502) 296-1074 <gailsgarden@uswest.net>

16: Canada:

Catherine Boyko, Rt. 9, Bains Rd., Dunnville ONT N1A 2W8 Canada, (905) 774-8360

17: Texas:

Bonnie Nichols, 3365 Northaven Rd., Dallas, TX 75229, (214) 352-2191, <bjnhtn@aol.com>

18: Kansas and Missouri:

Jim Morris, 682 Huntley Heights Dr., Ballwin MO 63021, (314) 256-3927 <morrisje1@aol.com>

19: New Jersey:

Raymond Rogers, 503 Lee Ave., North Brunswick, NJ 08902, (732) 249-9478 <rrogers@dk.com>

20: Colorado:

Fran Evers, 4955 Pine Ridge Rd., Golden, CO 80403 <EversJFW@aol.com>

21: Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and North Dakota:

Carolyn Lingenfelter, 1108 N. 9th St., Norfolk, NE 68701, (402) 371-3658 <carolyndl@hotmail.com>

22: Arkansas and Oklahoma:

Louise Carson, 5037 NW 24th Pl., Oklahoma City OK 73127, (405) 947-1710 <okcjoe@juno.com>

23: New Mexico:

Barbara Figge, 6805 Kentucky Court NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110, <irisone@juno.com>

24: Alabama and Mississippi:

Hazel B. Jones, 6374 County Hwy 26, Blountsville AL 35031-4241, (205) 429-3913

President's Message

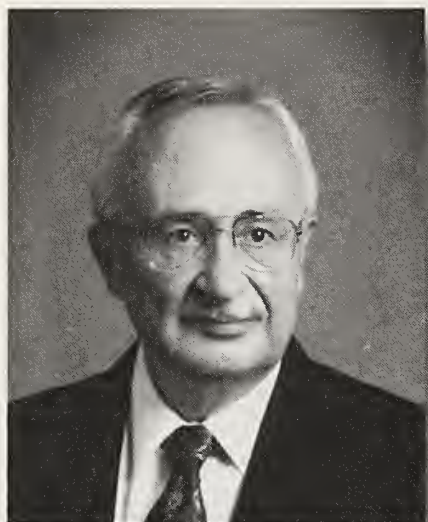
by Clarence Mahan, Virginia

AT OUR LOCAL CHESAPEAKE AND POTOMAC IRIS SOCIETY meeting in November members brought several dozen stalks of reblooming irises, including several cultivars that I had not seen before. One of the most beautiful irises, a pristine white flower with falls edged in mauve and with a bright tangerine beard, was SWEET SOLITUDE (Nearpass R. '96). Ginny Spoon told me that this as yet unIntroduced iris had many fall stalks in her garden. When I discovered that the parentage of this ruffled, pleated beauty was MY KATIE X ENTOURAGE, I was astounded. The late Dr. Nearpass never hybridized to achieve rebloom, and neither of the parents of SWEET SOLITUDE is a cold climate rebloomer. Amazing!

It is almost a truism that reblooming irises produce their most abundant rebloom when there is a lot of summer rain. Ask any reblooming iris expert. Yet, in this year of severe spring and summer drought in the East, I cannot recall when there has been more lavish rebloom than 1999. It almost seems that the more I learn about irises the less I know.

One thing I definitely know about irises is that those of us who are fascinated with their beauty owe a very large debt to hybridizers and iris specialist nurseries. One way we can show our gratitude and also promote irises to the gardening public is to prepare a good list of sources to hand out at our iris shows. When you do this be sure to include the cost of the catalogue or price list for the nurseries that sell by mail. Also, be sure to include the local people who sell irises and indicate whether one should call ahead when visiting their gardens. If you are having a fall show it is a good idea to have a handout listing sources for reblooming irises.

If you look at membership numbers over several years, AIS seems to be on a treadmill. Each year we add over a thousand new members. Each year over a thousand members do not renew their membership. When



Clarence Mahan, AIS President

we are lucky, membership numbers inch up. When something dramatic happens, such as the sharp increase in dues a few years ago, our membership numbers fall.

Prior to December 31st of each year our Membership Secretary sends out renewal notices. Then in January she sends those members who have not yet renewed a second renewal notice. She also sends RVPs a list of members who have not renewed so that they can pass this information on to the local clubs. Life can be hectic and it is easy to forget to send in the check to renew.

Sometimes all it takes to retain a member is a telephone call from the local club president or membership chairperson

If you are a local club president or membership chairperson and cannot for some reason get a list of those who have not renewed in your region, give Marilyn Harlow a call. She will be glad to send you a list for your region and you can then determine which members are in your area.

This year in Dallas the AIS board of directors will meet a day earlier than in the past. So if you want to sit in on the first day of the board's meeting you should plan to come early. We added this extra day so that board members can attend the programs put on by the sections, many of which include slide presentations and guest speakers. Dallas promises to be a great convention!

A big "thank you" to Region 18 and the Greater St. Louis Iris Society for hosting our fall meeting in November. The hospitality was wonderful.

Congratulations go to our five newest emeritus judges. These five outstanding judges are Catherine Gates, Emma Hobbs, Dave Niswonger, Carol Warner and Ruth Wilder.

Subsequent to the AIS Board meeting held in St. Louis, Director Bobbie Shepard tendered her resignation, for personal reasons. I appointed Nancy Pocklington to fill the unexpired term, and this appointment has been approved by members of the Board.

Secondly, I appointed Director Barbara Figge to replace Bobbie Shepard as RVP Counselor, and this appointment has also been approved by members of the Board. ❧

Editor's Message

Time to Move On

by Terry Aitken, Washington State

AT THE FALL BOARD MEETING, I SUBMITTED MY resignation as Editor, effective whenever a suitable replacement can be located. I have thoroughly enjoyed this opportunity to serve the Society and to make the *Bulletin* the product that I think it should be. I recognize that the *Bulletin* assignments have involved high levels of stress but, quite frankly, I do my best work under stress. Unfortunately there have been times when my responsibilities to my Architectural clients, the *Bulletin*, and our iris business have been in conflict. It was difficult to squeeze out any more productive hours to get the job done. So it is time to allow someone else to test his/her levels of stress, and the Society will search for another editor. Interested parties should contact Jeanne Clay Plank.

I am firmly committed to seeing the AIS put out a high quality bulletin and I will assist any new editor in any manner deemed appropriate by that individual. The *Bulletin* is not a one person job. Much of the material in it is regularly submitted in a timely fashion by a highly dedicated group of reporters, many serving in chair positions to the board. My most constructive suggestion to improve the *Bulletin* team would be to add two or three more "reporter" positions and I would suggest the following.

* Convention Reporter: An individual who would seek out and assign garden reports for the National Convention each year. Verify at the convention that the individuals are present and know their assignments. Collect the reports and edit for use in the *Bulletin*. This position could also include reports from Section conventions in a similar fashion and probably coordinated with the Section editors.

* Iris Culture Reporter: An individual who would search out any new concepts for weed, insect or disease control as well as fertilizers and good gardening practices. While an annual report in the spring *Bulletin* would be the main feature, more detailed and extensive articles could be reported any time during the year and could include summaries of research projects.



Terry Aitken, *AIS Bulletin* Editor

✿ “What’s New” Reporter: This individual would regularly (annually) contact known hybridizers for comments. This winter, Bruce Filardi has been working on just this type of assignment. “Occasional” or new hybridizers could contact this person if they feel they have information useful to the iris world. This is a winter assignment for hybridizers and probably an April *Bulletin* report. International communications should also be encouraged.

While other positions might also be helpful, having people assigned to these roles would go a long way towards taking the pressure off any future editor.

I would like to offer a special thank you to a couple of people who are trying hard to take a load off my mind and without whose help these last couple of *Bulletins* would not be the caliber that they are. Bruce Filardi has been conducting surveys, soliciting articles and proofreading. David Silverberg has also done some proofreading.

Somewhere between the rough draft and the final product, some photo credits disappeared from the October *Bulletin*. For the Ben Hager photos on the inside back cover, I would like to thank Virginia Messick for the submitting the upper left photo. The lower right garden photo of Sid Duboise and Ben Hager was submitted by Rick Tasco. ♪

Correction to October, 1999 Bulletin:

On Page 64, under Cook-Douglas Medal runners up, TWEETY BIRD (P. Black) should read 42 votes.

Bulletin Policy regarding Obituaries:

We have had many requests for this information. In order for an Obituary to appear in the *Bulletin*, that individual needs to have served in an AIS national office, RVP or higher, or has been a hybridizer whose plants have received awards at the Award of Merit level or higher.

Occasionally, an organization may “sponsor” an obituary by buying advertising space in the *Bulletin*, where an individual would otherwise not qualify under the above criteria.

Deceased AIS members are listed “In Memoriam” when notification is received, usually from the membership secretary.

Youth Views

Ackerman Essay Topic

by Jean Morris, Missouri

"What do you feel adults in your iris society could do to make iris activities more enjoyable for youth members?"

THIS IS THE YOUTH ESSAY TOPIC FOR THE YEAR 2000. WRITE your essay in 500 words or less and mail it by March 1 to Claire Honkanen, PO Box 235, Isle of Palms, SC 29451-0235. The contest, sponsored by the AIS Foundation, offers a \$100. cash prize to the writer of the winning essay.

To plan your essay, make a list of improvements you would like to see your iris society put into practice. (Perhaps you can also share some positive ideas your club members have carried out in the past.) Next, reduce your list down to three or four ideas and write a paragraph on each. This will be the middle of your essay. Add an introductory paragraph at the beginning and a concluding paragraph at the end of your essay, and you are finished.

Neatly recopy or type your final version after checking your spelling and grammar. You may have an adult read your essay for technical accuracy, but the writing must be your own. We ask parents to resist the urge to interfere with their young person's creative efforts.

We would like to hear from youths of all ages in every region of the AIS. This is your opportunity to tell us what you think, so sound off, state your opinion, express your views. It could make you \$100 richer!



Jean E. Morris
Youth Committee Chairperson

Reminder

Nominations for the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement are due by January 31st. Please mail them right away to Jean E. Morris, 682 Huntley Heights Dr., Ballwin, MO 63021. Look for rules and further information in "Youth Views", page 10 of the October 1999 AIS Bulletin. Please encourage your favorite youth member by writing a nomination today. ~

No Symposium Results

The January issue of the *Bulletin* usually contains the results of the Symposium balloting from the previous year. However, because the Revised Symposium ballot came out in the October *Bulletin*, the results this year will be published in the April issue.

- Gerry Snyder, Symposium Chair

Index of Advertisers:

Advertisers are listed alphabetically:

Idaho Iris Festival	pg 33
Keppel Irises	pg 34 - 35
Sutton's Green Thumber	pg 36
Lowell Baumunk	pg 37
Winterberry Gardens	pg 42 - 44
Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden	pg 45



International News

by George & Margaret Sutton, California
and Bruce Filardi, Oregon

From the Canadian Iris Society Autumn Newsletter:

At the CIS Annual General Meeting in September 1999 Ed Jowett was awarded the *Walker Ross Service Award* for 1999. Ed has faithfully served the CIS for at least ten years in many capacities; as President, current Treasurer, auction chair, show chair, acquisition committee member and coordinated our booth at the spring garden shows for the last several years. The *Walker Ross Service Award* is awarded annually to a member whose efforts have contributed to the long-term success of the Canadian Iris Society and to the promotion and advancement of the genus iris. Previous winners are Don Fritshaw ('94), Bruce Richardson ('95), Verna Laurin ('96), and Ollie Kummer ('97); the award was not given in 1998.

Excerpt on Growing Arils in Ontario, Canada:

by Ron Shaw:

Most people in Southern Ontario, as well as other regions of Canada, do not grow the hauntingly beautiful pure Aril irises because they are perceived as "ungrowable" outside of their near desert conditions in the Middle East. I have worked out a system that is reasonably successful in south central Ontario.

First I prepare a bed incorporating a quantity of well rotted barnyard manure and a mix of dolomitic limestone and horticultural lime as my soil is somewhat acidic. The bed is then thoroughly rototilled and left to settle for six weeks. Arils...are planted with two to three centimeters of soil on top of them in early September...I do not dig my arils in summer, but allow all non-spreading weeds to grow among the arils to suck excess moisture from the soil...Mat forming annuals should be avoided, as they would keep ground moist and encourage rot in the iris rhizomes.

The easiest arils to grow in this area are the regelias and their hybrids.

Regelio-cyclus...are fairly easy to grow. Next are the northern growing oncos from Turkey and Iran. Most difficult are the southern growing oncos from Lebanon, Syria, Israel, Jordan and the Negar desert and their

hybrids. I have not noted any iris borer in them or any other iris disease problem. The most common problem is rotting of the rhizomes.

...In regard to winter protection, regelias and their hybrids make very little if any top growth in the fall. The same is true for the Northern growing oncos and regelio-cyclus. The southern growing oncos start growing in the fall and slowly continue through the winter in their native habitat. This tender growth can get frozen in our climate. I find it advantageous to place a thick insulating layer of maple leaves with support to keep a heavy snow layer from compressing and breaking new growth. The control of mice burrowing through and cutting off new growth should be taken.

From Canada:

Siberian-Species Convention 2003: Request for Guest Iris.

Dates for receiving Guest Siberian Irises: From autumn of 1999 through autumn of 2001. We will be accepting either spring or autumn shipments, as follows: spring shipments until April 30, 2000 or 2001; autumn shipments until September 15, 1999, 2000 and 2001. U.S. hybridizers may send irises directly to RBG (Royal Botanical Garden) in Canada. Phyto certificate is required to be supplied by sender for direct to Canada shipments. Alternatively, irises may be sent to Peter Weixlmann, 280 Seneca Creek Road, West Seneca, NY 14224. Buffalo is the collection point for the U.S. irises to be transported to Canada. No phyto is required for shipping to Buffalo. Guidelines: Three to five divisions of each variety may be shipped. (The usual rules for names, types etc.) Photographs: We are also requesting that hybridizers send along a 35 mm color slide of each of their submissions. These should be clearly marked as to the name or seedling number of the iris. We will use these in one of our evening convention programs and this will help increase exposure for your irises. Disposition: Include information with the irises. Options are destruction of the irises, return the irises (which will include a charge of \$25-30, due to phyto etc.), or donation to the RBG, CIS and WNYIS.

From Germany:

The German Iris Society recently announced the results of the 1999 Iris Competition at the Palmengarten in Frankfurt. This annual international competition is similar to the Concorso del Iris held each year in Florence. The irises (tall bearded) are planted in a test garden setting and judged by a panel of experts.

This year, the first two prizes were awarded to irises bred by Manfred Beer, a hybridizer from former East Germany. Mr. Beer is also the breeder of MANDY G., the highly-regarded black iris pictured in the October issue of the *AIS Bulletin*.

First prize and the Countess von Zeppelin Trophy went to MELANIE STEUERNAGEL (Beer '99). The awards committee's description reads as follows: well-domed mustard standards with faint burgundy red streak in center; falls burgundy with luminata pattern and narrow brown rim, beards mustard; lightly ruffled, no fading with age, very good substance and plant health, up to 12 blossoms per stalk.

Second place was awarded to TRINY (Beer '98), with large flowers of yellow standards and violet falls. Third place went to Dr. E. Fischer's seedling #14 (garden name "EISMÖVE"), a pure white self, with committee notes that its first bloom stayed in perfect condition for a full five days.

From France:

Sylvain Ruaud of the French Iris Society announced the results of the 1998 Popularity Poll in France: In first place was SILVERADO (Schreiner '86), followed by BEVERLY SILLS (Hager '79), ECHO DE FRANCE (Anfosso '84), FONDATION VAN GOGH (Anfosso '90), and SONG OF NORWAY (Luihn '79). Other high scorers were ALIZÉS, CABARET ROYALE, CLAUDE-LOUIS GAYRARD, DOUCE FRANCE, GOLD GALORE, MARY FRANCES, TITAN'S GLORY, VANITY and VICTORIA FALLS.

From Sergey Loktev in Russia:

In the Moscow International TB Iris Competition this year, the first place iris was MAKIN' MUSIC (J. Meek); followed by CAPE HORN (Byers); and third place, DELTA BLUES (Schreiner's).

Also: Winners of the Russian TB Symposium were as follows: COPATONIC, 21 votes; BEVERLY SILLS, CELEBRATION SONG and SUPREME SULTAN, 19; EDITH WOLFORD, 18; SILVERADO, 15; CONJURATION, 14; MESMERIZER, 13; ENGLISH CHARM, THORNBIRD, 12; BEFORE THE STORM, QUEEN IN CALICO, 11; and DUSKY CHALLENGER, HELLO DARKNESS, and HONKY TONK BLUES, 10 votes.

In the Median Symposium winners were: BROWN LASSO (BB), 10 votes; BATIK (BB), 9; JAZZAMATAZZ (SDB) 8; LONDONDERRY

(IB), 7; and BLAST (IB), BRASH (SDB), ZING ME (IB), KADAICHA (IB), and PUMPIN' IRON (SDB), all 6 votes.

High Award: not awarded

AMs were awarded to BRONZOVY VEK and SIMFONIYA, each 5 votes

HMs were awarded to AMARETTO, 5 votes, and AZIAT, DREVNI RIM, ISMOROZ, and MEDITERRANO, each with 4 votes.

FrancIris 2000:

The French Iris Society has organized a series of events to commemorate the work of French iris hybridizers, and to celebrate the passage of a millennium in the iris world. Dates are May 19 – 21, 2000.


French hybridizers started as far back as the middle of the 19th century, with the work of Jacques Lémon and Eugène Verdier. At the start of the 20th century, international stature was given by Vilmorin and his followers, including Millet, Ferdinand Denis, and especially Ferdinand Cayeux.

Marc Simonet, engineer, doctor and botanist, gathered an important collection at the Museum of National History in Paris. This collection has been saved and increased.

The idea of *FrancIris 2000* was to collect as many as possible of the irises bred in France since the start of the 20th century. Plants from the Simonet collection were sent to Gérard Brière, director of the Jardins de Brocéliande in Brittany. Lawrence Ransom performed important work in identification and research.

Approximately 800 varieties of irises are now growing in the Jardins de Brocéliande. Of these, about 350 are French. Irises from the U.S. and other countries were also planted, particularly recent award winners (Dykes medal, Prix de Florence, etc.)

Visitors to the Jardin de Brocéliande will be able to see and compare these irises next May. Organizers have arranged a Tall Bearded iris competition—French hybrids bred by both professionals and amateurs. There will also be a “People’s Choice” vote for the public to select their favorite varieties and to select the “Iris of the Millennium”. There will be iris art displays, paintings, ceramics, silver, floral designs along with conferences and visits to private gardens in Brittany. Don’t miss it!

For further information, contact: Les Jardins de Brocéliande, 35310 Bréal-sous-Montfort, France; phone 02-99-60-08-04. 

International Cooperation

The Path to the Middle-European Iris Society

by Milan Blazek, Czech Republic

AS A STUDENT, LOVING EQUALLY THE BEAUTIES OF NATURE as well as those of the garden, I had my first opportunity to see a real collection of irises in 1956, in an exposition "Flowers of the Late Spring" at the National Museum in Prague. Even though the genus *Iris* had always been richly represented in Czechoslovakia and other European countries, this exposition presented an amazing variety of cultivars. The plants were exhibited by the most important gardens in the country, including the Botanical Department of the National Museum, the Institute of Ornamental Gardening in Pruhonice, and leading commercial nurseries.

The variety of iris cultivars (at that time called "sorts") was tremendous, even if they were, by today's standards, small-flowered and old; most of them had been growing in gardens for more than 30 years, and some for even 130 years. The most fascinating "novelties" were 'Nadia', 'Balder', 'Rota', 'Flammenschwert', 'Seminole', and the very unusual color of 'Kate Izzard', shown under the incorrect name of 'Grace Sturtevant'. Most of these plants had been introduced into Czech nurseries years earlier, but historical events had halted their distribution. Two of the newest exhibited varieties astonished visitors with their clean colors and unprecedented size: 'Wabash' and 'Goldfackel'.

The other significant factor in the new era of iris development in Czechoslovakia was the deep interest of an amateur gardener and iris collector, Dalibor Pavel. I obtained his address from a copy of a hobby gardener's magazine that contained an article about his collection, which consisted of almost every iris available from nurseries in Czechoslovakia and East Germany. In addition, he had a relatively recent small group of plants sent to him from the United States. Dalibor was probably the first Czech who grew an American variety introduced less than 10 years earlier. I shall never forget my strong wish to see 'Russet Wings', one of

his newest varieties. And moreover, he had some wonderful present-day catalogues obtained from leading American iris specialists.

Meeting with Dalibor Pavel and seeing his copy of Schreiner's catalogue inspired me to start searching for contacts in the USA. Adelaide Peterson, sister of Geddes Douglas, editor of the *AIS Bulletin*, answered my letter addressed to the American Iris Society, and Robert Schreiner answered the letter addressed to him. They both showed much sympathy for my enthusiasm and desire for new irises, and in 1958 the first really new, modern American irises, tall and later also dwarfs, flowered in our family garden in Zbuzany near Prague.

In this way my first foreign iris sponsors broke through the Iron Curtain with their generosity. These plants formed a base for revolutionary change and new, unprecedented relationships among iris lovers in Central Europe. Just as previous sources of ornamental plants for Czechoslovakian gardens were European nurseries, the first steps to the distribution of modern American irises in Czechoslovakia came directly from American gardens.

My newly established network of iris specialists developed and maintained active contacts, and their number started to grow. During this period, I received great encouragement from the visit of Prof. and Mrs. L. F. Randolph, whom I guided during their stay in Czechoslovakia. They were also the first foreigners to see my own early iris hybrids in their "birthplace" in our family garden.

It may be hard to imagine now, but in the divided world of the early 1960's, the distance between Czechoslovakia and neighboring European countries with different political systems was—practically speaking—like the distance to other continents. For me, this distance was shortened by Eckard Berlin, who obtained my address from a source in the USA and gave it to Flaminia Specht. This resulted in an invitation to participate in the Florence Symposium in 1963. After many weeks of effort to obtain permission to leave my country for a few days in Italy, I received all documents shortly before the opening of the Symposium. By chance, on the day of my departure for Florence, I received a scholarship for future study at the newly established Botanical Garden of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences in Pruhonice.

In Florence, I met leading iris specialists from all over the world. This broadened my horizon and gave me endless inspiration. After seeing the garden in Florence, I longed to do something similar in Pruhonice, which was our country's traditional and modern center of garden culture. Even though I could not visit Rodionenko's Iridarium in the USSR

or the Presby Memorial Garden in the USA, I was able to use information from them to help establish our Iridarium. As time went on, my most important contact from the Florence Symposium turned out to be Countess Helen von Stein-Zeppelin; she significantly influenced the development of the Pruhonice Iridarium, both through the example of her extensive iris collection and via the many plants she provided to Pruhonice.

Those milestones in the years 1956 – 1963 not only determined the course of my life, but also acted in a broader context, contributing strongly to the further botanical and social developments of the genus *Iris* in this country; and gradually radiating outwards to neighboring countries. If I hadn't visited the exposition in Prague, and if I hadn't attended the Symposium in Florence, I would probably never have attempted to build Europe's largest Iridarium in Pruhonice; I would not have been stimulated to grow thousands of seedlings, and to share the results of study of irises collected and hybridized by botanists, geneticists, and gardeners from all parts of the world.

The gardening tradition in Pruhonice required a new, ambitious botanical garden with open perspectives to new ideas and to building a modern collection, while respecting Pruhonice's concepts and programs, as established by Count A. Silva-Tarouca in the early 20th century. Irises had always been an important part of the Pruhonice collections; I started to transfer my private iris collection to Pruhonice and to develop it in a wider, more broad-minded direction, but at the same time in harmony with the high standards of the famous Pruhonice park.

The multi-faceted work on the genus *iris* in the Pruhonice garden encompasses a special series of themes, such as botanical problems of European irises, hybridization of wild and garden plants, development of European iris collections, preservation of endangered species and garden varieties by means of botanical gardens, educational uses of irises in botanical gardens, etc.

In the course of twenty years after the first imports, modern irises became popular, commonly grown plants throughout Czechoslovakia, even in small gardens and town squares in remote villages. Use of the term "iris fever" would not be over-exaggeration! We were not permitted to establish a separate organization of iris lovers in the 1960's, but specialized groups developed within the framework of the national organization of amateur gardeners. In the early years, many flower lovers traveled great distances to attend our lectures, slide presentations, and iris shows in Prague; as time passed, such meetings became regular and

widespread throughout the country, in both the Czech and Slovak parts of the state. This close cooperation still continues between these two areas, which are now separate, independent states. In recent years, iris growers on both sides have started to import the newest varieties from America and, more recently, from Australia. The number of hybridizers has grown from a few enthusiasts to dozens at present.

A similar situation exists in Poland. Irises were originally collected and cultivated by a few avid gardeners, but soon iris beds consisting of modern varieties became widely appreciated parts of gardens. Now many specialists possess a very good knowledge of garden irises, and each year sees new seedlings which are the result of planned crosses of the newest varieties.

Although in Prague the social activities concerning irises started to stagnate after an active quarter of a century, they continued positively in other parts of the country. The most active group was established in northern Moravia (the eastern part of the present Czech Republic) by Zdenek Seidl, an enthusiastic iris grower and successful hybridizer.

The long-ripening ideas about international iris societies developed further at the Oregon Convention in 1994. A workshop of European participants was held in Portland; iris specialists from Great Britain, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, and the Czech Republic discussed the situation and shared their basic ideas about an international organization. Cooperation on a European level appeared to be more realistic than on a world level. Prof. Sergio Orsi agreed to explore further possibilities for the European Iris Society.

A World Iris Organization seemed to be realistic only as an "umbrella" for smaller territorial societies. The main problem of a world organization is that many people would be handicapped not only by geographical distances but also by their economic situations. This could limit or even eliminate participation for people from certain countries, regardless of their level of interest. A further important barrier is that the local societies must always issue printed material in their local languages. With these factors in mind, a network of smaller national or regional societies seemed more viable.

These problems were discussed in detail at meetings with Czech, Polish, and Slovak friends after my return from Oregon. We established a club, preparing for participation in the future European Iris Society. Further discussion took place in Florence in 1996, among friends from Great Britain, France, Italy, Russia, and the three middle-European countries: the Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia. Some months later we

established the Middle-European Iris Society (MEIS) as a local society belonging to the European and world network of Iris Societies. Zdenek Seidl became its president. One great advantage is that our languages are very similar to each other, so all members can communicate with one another, and we can all read the texts in our Bulletin. Also, distances for personal meetings are acceptable.

The situation of the genus *Iris* in Central Europe has changed greatly over the last half century. This progress is the result of the efforts of those who were directly involved, but we also owe a debt to many generations of botanists, growers, and hybridizers from all parts of the world. Our success was achieved with the help of those who supplied us with information and with plants, and these plants have spread further throughout the world, both as cultivars and through their descendants. ❧



Design of the New Bee Warburton Medal


Destiny Dallas 2000

Convention Update

HOPE YOU ARE MAKING PLANS TO ATTEND THIS YEAR'S AIS National Convention in Dallas, Texas, April 15 – 20th. Early registration needs to be postmarked by February 15th, so don't delay!

There will be many wonderful gardens on tour. Look for full information on these convention gardens, as well as hotel and registration details in the October, 1999 *Bulletin*, pages 16 – 18. In addition, the convention committee advises that they will be able to accept credit card payment for your registration—either Visa or Mastercard. If paying by credit card, please include the credit card number, expiration date, name as it appears on the card, and your phone number.

Regarding the meeting schedule, registration will open at 10:00AM on Saturday, April 15th. The AIS Board meeting will begin at 1:00PM. On Sunday, April 16th, the AIS Board will meet at 8:00AM. Various Section Board meetings will begin at 12:30PM. Section Membership meetings will begin at 8:00AM. Monday, April 17th. Welcome Dinner will be that evening. Iris garden tours will be on Tuesday, April 18 through Thursday, April 20th—three days of tours, with the Awards Banquet scheduled for Thursday evening.

For up to date information, visit the convention web site at <www.DestinyDallas.org>, or contact the Registrars, Steve and Ann Kimball (see October *Bulletin*). 



2000 Silent Auction

Dallas, Texas

by Maxine Perkins, New Mexico

We are holding the Silent Auction again! That means we need your contributions to make this year's auction even more successful than the previous two.

The Silent Auction is getting to be a popular part of our conventions, and it's a great way to raise funds for the support of AIS. People are going home with new treasures and new or recent iris introductions that they are very pleased to own. On the other hand, many of us have treasures that we would like to donate so others can have the pleasure of owning them. It is a great way for hybridizers to get their introductions seen in different parts of the country.

We are looking for iris artifacts, iris books and new or recent introductions of all kinds of irises. Preferably, the irises should be 1998, 1999 or 2000 introductions. However, if you would like to donate any other irises that are rare or unusual, do not hesitate to contact us. Many of us bid unsuccessfully on irises that weren't easily found and would like another chance to acquire them.

Since this year's convention is early (April 15 – 20), please let us know what you can donate no later than March 31, 2000, in order for us to prepare bid sheets. Just send a short note to the address below, e-mail, or give me a call.

Maxine Perkins

PO Box 494

Mesilla Park, NM 88047

Phone: (505) 524-1529

E-mail: <Imperk@totacc.com>



Siberillenum

Siberian Irises for the 21st Century

Iowa City, Iowa, June 2 – 4, 2000

Registration fee is \$125 per person.

Includes:

- Two days of bus tours
- Friday reception
- Two lunches and two dinners.

Send check, payable to CVIDS (Cedar Valley Iris and Daylily Society)
to the registrar:

Jean Hecht,

105 N. Dubuque St. North, Liberty, IA 52317.

Phone (319) 626-6159;

e-mail <jhecht@compuserve.com>

Convention headquarters: Clarion Hotel and Conference Center
NW corner of I-80 at Exit 242, in Iowa City.

(319) 351-1117.

Special rate (mention CVIDS) is \$64 (single) or \$74 (double) per night.

For additional information, contact

Convention Chair, Barry Stoll

(319) 946-3471

e-mail <walnuthl@netins.net>

HIPS Happening



First Historic Iris Preservations Society Convention *ever!*

June 2-4, 2000 • Syracuse, NY

sponsored by the

Empire State Iris Society

Three days of Flowers, Folks & Fun

including:

- 2 days of bus tours
- banquet & farewell luncheon
- iris artifacts
- silent auction
- Magic Lantern Show

(come in Roaring 20's costume & win a prize!)

Featured Speaker:

Clarence Mahan, President, AIS

Registration: \$90, postmarked before 3/15/2000

Hotel (rate of \$85) can be handled with your registration - details upon request
checks payable to HIPS Convention

Convention Headquarters:

Wyndham Hotel, 6301 Carrier Pkwy.

E. Syracuse, NY 13057 • (315) 432-0200



Registrar:

Wendy Roller

251 Bonesteel St

Rochester, NY 14616 (716) 621-8985

or email convention Chair: Helen Schueler:

HIPShappening @juno.com

Future Conventions

Official Schedule

Year	City	Headquarters	Date	Chairman
2000	Dallas, TX	Crown Plaza Hotel 14315 Midway Rd Addison, TX 75244 (972) 980-8877	15-20 Apr	Bonnie Nichols 3365 Northaven Rd Dallas, TX 75229 (214) 352-2191
2001	York, PA	Marriott Hunt Valley Inn 245 Shawan Rd Hunt Valley, MD 21031 (410) 785-7000	22-26 May	Jason Leader 9328 Forest Rd Glen Rock, PA 17387 (717) 428-2068
2002	Memphis, TN	Memphis Marriott 2625 Thousand Oaks Blvd Memphis, TN 38118 (901) 362-6200	25-29 Apr	Jim Browne Memphis Botanic Garden 750 Cherry Rd Memphis, TN 38117 (910) 685-1566
2003	Virginia		16-21 May	Clarence Mahan 7311 Churchill Rd McLean, VA 22101 (703) 893-8526
2004	Spartanburg, SC		May	Marshall L. Goforth 837 S. GreenRiver Rd Gaffney, SC 29341 (803) 487-4082
2005	St. Louis, MO		May	Riley Probst
2006	Portland,		22-27 May	John W. Ludi
2007	Oklahoma City			F. W. McVicker
2008	Region 14			Kitty Loberg, RVP

Scheduled Fall Board Meetings:

2000	Lincoln, NE	Best Western Airport Inn	3-5 Nov	Henry Wulf Interstate 80 7172 South 70th St., Rt 9 Lincoln, NE 68516-2607 (402) 423-7172
2001	High Point, NC		2-4 Nov	Dr. E. Roy Epperson 1115 Delk Dr High Point, NC 27262 (336) 883-9677

Meet the New RVPs

For 2000

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS ARE ELECTED TO THREE YEAR terms by their Regions and approved by the AIS Board at the fall meeting. This year's elected RVPs (listed by region) are as follows:

JaNiece Mull, Region 4



JaNiece grew up on an Iowa farm during the Depression. There was little money, but always plenty of food, love and flowers. Her earliest memories were of the beautiful purple and lavender irises that grew like weeds but were as precious as gold on her parents' farm. Her mother was a true flower lover and passed this love of flowers on to JaNiece and her sister. Early on she learned to distinguish between

what was an iris and what was a weed, and grew up with a love of flowers and the ground they grew in.

JaNiece married a "city fellow" who was a wholesale grocer. Flowers took a back seat to marriage, children and a career, so unfortunately her love of flowers was not passed on to their children or grandchildren. The Mulls moved from Iowa and spent ten years in Fort Lauderdale, Florida before moving to Norfolk, Virginia. They grew beautiful orchids and other tropical plants in Southern Florida, but alas, no irises.

They moved to Norfolk, Virginia in the late 80's, to a home on ¾ acre of ground with little but trees in the back yard and plenty of grass. Then in April of 1991, after spending sixty years in the wholesale grocery business, Bill Mull retired—to "work in the garden, clean the attic and clean the garage". Well, it is now in the year 2000, and they are still in the garden! They raise about 1,200 irises, almost a thousand daylilies, and are trying their hand at hybridizing both. In addition they have some 250 roses, plenty of annuals and a few other perennials, with very little grass left in the yard. They have two water gardens and a six foot waterfall. The cedar trees around the back make a perfect backdrop for their rainbow of irises, which they have blooming most of the year. They

have many people visit their garden, and give talks to any group that is willing to listen as they share their love of flowers with others.

The Mulls grow both bearded and beardless irises. They belong to a number of local and national flower societies, work with botanical gardens in their area, as well as the local school system. Although they didn't pass along their love of irises to family members, they are working to introduce the youth of today to the wonderful world of irises.

They look forward to seeing more gardens throughout the United States during JaNiece's term as RVP. They are both avid photographers, so "Have Camera, Will Travel".



Eleanor M. Boyson, Region 7

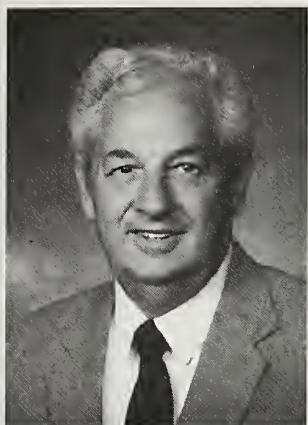
Eleanor has had a love of flowers and gardening for as long as she can remember, which she attributes to her grandmother who always had a beautiful garden with many wonderful flowers. However, the only irises she grew were the old purple "flags", which Eleanor still grows today.

When she and her husband purchased their first home with a bare yard, friends gave them some older irises and peonies. In 1976 Eleanor "happened" upon an iris show at a local mall. She had never seen so many different varieties and colors. She immediately placed an iris order, and entered the show the following year. In 1978 she won Queen of Show with STEPPING OUT and was hooked!

Eleanor joined the Middle Tennessee Iris Society and AIS and has been active in the local club ever since. She became an AIS judge in 1985 and has served for several years as Chairman of Judges and Judges' Training for Region 7.

After being widowed and remarried, she and her current husband E. J. bought their farm in 1980. They moved about thirty iris varieties to the farm and have been adding to the collection every year. Eleanor now grows approximately 600 varieties including Siberians, Japanese and Spurias. Her garden also includes the original peonies given by friends, along with newer peonies, daylilies, hostas and other perennials.

Eleanor is also a great animal lover and their farm is home to five dogs, one cat, five burros and some cattle. However the current highlight of her life now is being Granny to their four wonderful grandchildren. She hopes one or two of them will continue her love of gardening and irises.



Leon B. Robertson, Region 12

Leon was born and raised in Utah and currently resides in Murray, a suburb of Salt Lake City. He plans to move to South Jordan in the spring of 2000. Leon got hooked on hybridizing around 1960 by a fellow worker who was doing a little hybridizing of irises and orchids. The idea of creating new varieties was appealing to him, but waiting several years for a new orchid was too long and he felt irises were just as beautiful as orchids.

Leon got involved in the Utah Iris Society and became Vice President and then President in the mid 1960s. His daughter Lori and son Mike still remember as young children setting up for the annual shows and doing arrangements under the tutelage of their father.

For reasons of space, and a big footed dog, Leon got side-tracked for about twenty years. In the late 1980s he regained control of his yard, purchased some new irises, received others from friends, and began to hybridize again in 1990. Still lacking space, Leon branched out and now has several small gardens to care for, including a plot in the Arboretum at Murray City Park where he maintains about 70 of his seedlings.

Leon was an Associate Vice President of the University of Utah and their Chief Budget Officer. He retired in the spring of 1987, went to Australia for eighteen months, and shortly after his return was elected to the Murray City Council for eight years. This community service will end in January of 2000.

With full retirement ahead of him, Leon is planning to spend more time with his irises. He can't wait for the winter to end so he can get a look at his "babies".



John Ludi, Region 13

John was born and raised on a dairy farm in Portland, Oregon. When he was in the seventh grade, his parents moved the dairy east of Portland to the Sandy area. Being farmers, his parents always had a large garden area for vegetables, flowers and berries. John can still remember riding the back of the draft horse while his Dad cultivated the garden. Another memorable event was when Dad brought home the first tractor. Today that tractor is part of the antique farm equipment in the iris garden.

After graduation from high school, John went off to college in eastern Washington. There he met his wife Kay. Upon his graduation from college, John was commissioned a Lieutenant in the US Army. Throughout more than 20 years of military service, John and Kay always found space for a vegetable and flower garden. Upon his retirement from the service, John, Kay, their four sons and a daughter returned back home to the Pacific Northwest.

It is only natural that the iris bug caught John and Kay. Both John's and Kay's parents raised irises for many years. They joined the AIS and The Greater Portland Iris Society in 1984. They been very involved in both regional and local activities ever since. John is currently President and Kay is Secretary of GPIS. The Ludi garden, Mountain View Iris Garden, is a cumulative effort of John, Kay and his parents, John and Wava. It has been a host garden for several Region 13 Conventions, the AIS Convention in 1994 and the SJI Convention in 1999. They grow over 1200 cultivars of bearded and beardless irises, and have produced many show winners. At local shows over the years, the Ludis have won many Queens of Show, as well as several Silver and Bronze medal awards.

John is presently employed by the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office where he works graveyard shift behind the booking counter at the jail. He looks forward to serving the members of Region 13 and AIS. Be assured he will be involved in the AIS Convention in Portland in 2006.



Gail Barnhill, Region 15

Gail Barnhill was born and raised on a small farm in West Covina, California, about 30 miles East of Los Angeles. Her family moved into the city in 1960. It was then that she was "forced into labor" doing garden chores, leading to a now infamous statement... "when I grow up and have my own house, I'm going to have a green concrete lawn!"

After business college and a stint as a skater for Ice Capades, she moved into her own home in Coronado, California in 1974... and planted just a seed or two. Gail didn't start to garden passionately (obsessively?) until she moved to the Tucson Arizona desert in 1978, and had an opportunity to be a "stay-at-home Mom" for three years after her son Patrick was born.

Her love of iris actually began as a little girl at Easter when she was always greeted by a six foot row of irises all along a long driveway lead-

ing to her grandparents' farm house. Spying a packaged iris rhizome at a Tucson nursery brought back those memories. Thus began years of iris enjoyment. Oddly enough, she discovered many years later that her Grandma Berger had been encouraged to grow irises by a neighboring farmer, none other than Sanford Babson who hybridized the 1974 Dykes Medal winner, SHIPSHAPE!

A love of Iris led to a love of any flower she can grow. Gail currently has about 250 iris mixed into her English Country Garden and 14 water garden ponds, all on a typical city lot. Her garden has been visited by over 2,000 gardeners during many public tours for the local iris, garden and water gardening societies as well as the Tucson Botanical Garden's annual city gardens tour.

Gail joined the Tucson Area Iris Society in 1980 after seeing a show and later served as Secretary, Treasurer and then President. This led to terms as Secretary, Judges Training Chair and assistant RVP of Region 15. Gail became an Accredited AIS Garden Judge in 1998. She is also past-president of The Gardeners of Tucson and founder and President of The Tucson Watergardeners.

When not working at her job as an office manager or gardening, Gail enjoys making "Rustic Renditions" of garden furniture, birdhouses and garden art out of recycled old wood. Her creations are "Guaranteed by Gail *not* to be level, straight or smooth!"



Hazel Jones, Region 24


When Hazel was a high school student she visited her sister who lived across the street from a woman who was a member of the local iris society. She visited often during the tall bearded iris bloom season and each year would see the new varieties that had been added. Her admiration for irises grew, and she learned about the AIS.

Hazel continued her education, receiving a Bachelors Degree in home Economics and a Masters in Elementary Education. During her second year of teaching she met and later married Kenneth Jones who was a teacher and coach at the same school.

During their twenty-nine years teaching the Jones were busy with school and church work and didn't spend much time in garden activities. However, now that they have retired they keep a beautiful home garden that includes many recent iris introductions. These were given to them by members of the local iris club or bought at local sales or at the Region

24 summer auction. In addition, they have some of their first, unnamed irises, which Hazel still enjoys. They grow their irises in raised beds, and invite friends to stop by and see the beauty of the irises in bloom. Hazel still fondly remembers her childhood visits to the iris garden where she learned about the introduction of new iris cultivars.

Aside from her garden pleasures, Hazel is well known for her baking abilities. She loves to bake and decorate special occasion cakes, and she and a friend cater many local events and weddings.

Hazel is the current treasurer of the Blount Iris and Daylily Society, and has served on various show committees. She loves to enter the iris shows, and usually is fortunate enough to win some ribbons for her iris entries. 



Chirps from Mama Robin

✿ Thanks to all the Robin Division Directors who keep me posted each year on how the robins, that they are responsible for, are doing.

✿ Thanks to the e-mail Robin Directors who must do their jobs on a daily as is, rather than tracking an occasional lost robin

✿ Thanks to all the wonderful robin members who keep the robins flying in a timely manner, and send their Directors copies of their letters. It has helped get Flight Lines back again.

- Libby Cross, Virginia

POCATELLO, IDAHO IRIS FESTIVAL 2000

Pocatello, Idaho's Iris City, celebrates its sixth annual Tall Bearded Iris Festival and invites you to share the fun. See hundreds of your favorites, back-dropped by mountains and plains.

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Photo by Deborah Jeppson

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CONFIDANTE



LAST LAUGH



SOCIAL GRACES



New Keppel Irises for 2000



VIENNA WALTZ



SHARPSHOOTER

KEITH KEPPEL

P. O. BOX 18154

SALEM, OR 97305

INTRODUCTIONS FOR 2000

CONFIDANTE (Keppel) TB, EM 38". (Silk Brocade sib) Ivory ground plic, lavender pink to mauve markings, burnt orange beards. Limited distribution last year as #91-88C. **\$35.00**

HAPPENSTANCE (Keppel) TB, M 37". ((Femme Fatale x ((Nefertiti x Playgirl) x Presence) X Social Event) Coral-bearded clear pink, ruffled and lightly laced. #93-139C. **\$40.00**

KIND WORD (Keppel) TB, ML 39" Uniform pinkish buff, solid orange vermilion beards. Great stalks and growth. ((French Pastry x (Orangerie x Precious Moments)) X Social Event. #89-17C. **\$40.00**

LAST LAUGH (Shoop) TB, ML 42" ((Hawaiian Queen sib x Hula Hoop) X Parisian Flight) Striking bicolor: white standards and circular blaze in blue violet falls; beards red orange. #92-28-2. **\$40.00**

POLISHED MANNERS (Keppel) TB, EM 36" ((Evening Gown x Sea Wolf) X Larry Gaulter) Fluorite violet to vatican purple with a glossy, metallic sheen; beards violet blue. #90-81A. **\$40.00**

SHARPSHOOTER (Keppel) TB, M 37" (Wild Wings sib) Pale lavender blue standards, vatican purple falls, prominent bright orange beards. Some irregularity of form, but bright garden subject. #93-72B. **\$40.00**

SOCIAL GRACES (Keppel) TB, ML 38" (Happenstance sib) Ruffled, heavily laced rosy lilac to orchid pink; carnelian red beards pale melon at end. #93-139L. **\$40.00**

VIENNA WALTZ (Keppe I I) TB, M_VL 36 1, (Happenstance sib) Heavily subenced milky orchid, ruffled and laced. #93-139D. **\$40.00**

MEDIANS

ATTITUDE (Keppel) IB, M 22" (Distant Roads x Quote sib) Dainty plic of prune purple to grapejuice on white. #93-5B. **\$20.00**

REDONDO (Keppel) IB, M 22". (((Gigolo x Sketch Me) x Hot Streak) X Bistro sib) Raisin to reddish wine plic markings on pale yellow ground. #94-48A. **\$20.00**

WHISTLE (Keppel) IB, M 24". ((Snowbrook x sib) X In Limbo) White ground plic, standards shaded violet blue, falls with narrow violet blue edge; bright yellow beards. Clean as a whistle! #94-46D. **\$20.00**

IMPEACHED (Keppel) SDB, EM 13" (Tweety Bird x (Wake Up x Chanted)) Peachy salmon, beards cream to flame. #94-25B. **\$15.00**

PRANK (Keppel) SDB, EM 9". (Spanish Empire X Easter) Aureolin to pyrethrum yellow with striking periwinkle blue beards. Very floriferous. #94-19B. **\$15.00**

SCHOLAR (Keppel) SDB, EM 13" (Bright Child X (Gigolette x Fairy Lore)) Very bright, clear lemon yellow glaciata. #95-4B. **\$15.00**

SWEET BABY (Keppel) SDB, M 13". ((Dark Vader x (Demon x (Combo x Toasty sib))) X (Jungle Warrior x Wunderkind)) Blackish red purple with pale blue beards, super-sweet fragrance. #94-7A. **\$15.00**

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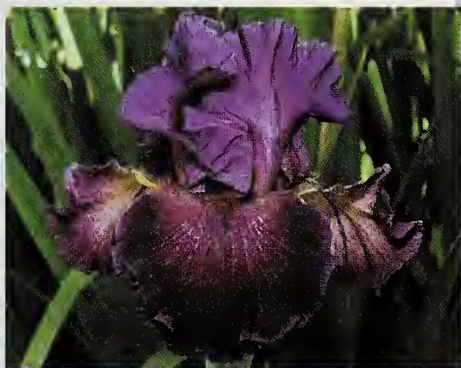
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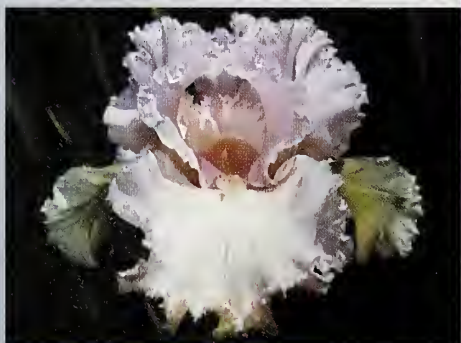
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LIGHTS CAMERA ACTION

Tall Bearded.

Seedling 94HBEE- 15.

Not to be confused with any other TB. Lovely distinctive flower on a strong plant. Seven plus buds. EC Colorado Springs '97. (Honky Tonk Blues X Ecstatic Echo).

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MIDNIGHT MOONLIGHT

Tall Bearded.

Seedling 94X10-10.

The most contrast we've seen between blackish purple falls and white standards. Draws lots of attention in the garden.

Much admired at shows, earning four EC's: Colorado Springs '97 and Denver '97, '98 and '99. (Tempting Fate X (Twist of Fate x Ride the Wind)).

\$40 postpaid.





Photo: Aitken

Aitken Seedling 83M11B (MDB)



Photo: Tasco

Tasco/Duncan Seedling RR#1



Hybridizer Allan Enslinger

Enslinger Seedling #89-59

Hybrid Bearded Variegations

See related articles, pages 61 – 76.

CANADIAN STREAKER (Chapman '97)



Photo: Spoon



Photo: Spoon



I. laevigata 'Vareigata'



Photo: Witt

I. pseudacorus 'foliis variegatis' (Salter 1861)

Species Variegations

See related articles, pages 61 – 76.



Photo: Aitken

Aitken Seedling 95-LA-1



Photo: Aitken

I. setosa



I. ensata 'Silverband' (Bauer-Coble '89) *I. foetidissima* 'Variegata' (Salter 1862)

Species Variegations

See related articles, pages 61 – 76.



Photo: Witt

I. pallida 'Vareigata' (Krelage)




Photo: Aike

I. pallida 'Argentea' (G&K '06)

Design Corner


See related article, page 77.

41

Design #1 



Design #2

Design #3 



Winterberry Gardens Introductions for Year 2000



Raspberry Silk (Spoon 2000) BB



My Ginny (Spoon 2000) TB



Lavender Lion (Spoon 2000) TB SA



Blue Ridge Beauty (Spoon 2000) TB



Lady of Leoness
(Spoon 2000) TB



Maroon Moon
(Spoon 2000) TB



Claire Doodle
(Spoon 2000) MTB RE

Winterberry Gardens Introductions for Year 2000

by Don Spoon, except where noted

America the Beautiful TB, 30" (76 cm), ML. Wide, fully flared and luxuriantly ruffled, medium blue plicata with clean white ground and tangerine beards. Extremely unique garden effect. Nice branching, 7-9 buds, and sturdy stalks. Vigorous growth. Fertile both ways. (90-212: Double Dare: Daredevil x Daredevil) X (92-38B: Daredevil x Daredevil)...\$40.00

Blue Ridge Beauty TB, 34" (86 cm), M. Wonderfully formed, flared and ruffled neglecta. Standards smoky lavender white, midrib and base darker. Style arms smoky lavender white. Wide falls smoky violet blend (RHS 84A to 85A), lighter edges, darker venation. Beards smoky violet to lavender white. Very vigorous with attractive, stately foliage. Silverado X Lord Fairfax: ((Dream Lover x Pledge Allegiance) x Sheer Bliss). \$40.00

Claire Doodle (Nearpass/C&P) MTB, 24" (61 cm), EM and **RE** (September in zone 6), Lavender blue self with striking darker venation in the falls and lavender beards tipped golden yellow. Lightly ruffled. Strong, well branched stalks, 7 to 11 buds. Dependable rebloomer. (88-23: New Idea x (I. aphylla cerulea x 69-56) X 89-18: Little Lynn x Hager 2542 OC). All profits divided equally between his family and the C&P Iris Society youth fund. \$30.00

Cobra's Eye TB, 33" (84 cm) EM and **RE** (October in Zone 6). Flared and lightly ruffled reddish violet bitone with lighter edging and showy lavender blue beards on the darker falls. Velvet texture. Fertile both ways. (Sheba's Queen X Violet Miracle). \$40.00

Dorothy Lee (C. Mahan) TB, 35" (89 cm), ML. Flared and ruffled bicolor with light yellow standards (RHS 11D) and light to medium wisteria blue (92 C/D) falls with bright yellow (10A) shoulders and blended yellow (196A) wash on edges. Golden yellow (12A) beards. Vigorous increaser. Sturdy, well branched stalks. (My Katie X Ruffled Ballet). \$40.00

Lady Glenna TB, 33" (84 cm) ML. Flared and nicely ruffled medium lavender blue self with lighter lavender blue beards. Excellent branching and 7-9 buds. Fertile both ways and a good rebloom carrier. (Honky Tonk Blues X Sister Helen) Named for C&P member, expert iris grower, and friend. \$40.00

Lady of Leoness TB, 34" (86 cm), ML. Named for Queen Guinevere. Fully flared and sinuously ruffled pale lavender blue self, with deeper color at the petal bases and pale lavender blue beards. Falls overlap. Exceptional substance and silvery texture. Ramrod, widely branched stalks with 7-11 buds. Fertile both ways. Purple based foliage. (Silverado X Honky Tonk Blues) Reverse cross produced Uncle Charlie. \$40.00

Lavender Lion TB, SA, 30" (76 cm), ML. Flaring, ruffled bitone with creamy lavender standards and wide lavender falls with darker venation. Darker beards have even darker upturned fang-like appendages. Vigorous increaser. (Thornbird X What's Up Doc). \$35.00

Lilla TB, 34" (86 cm), EM and **RE** (October in zone 6). Fully flared and ruffled bright golden yellow self with darker beards. Excellent wide branching with 7-9 buds. Pleasant sweet fragrance. (Precious Harvest X Sunny Disposition) Limited Supply. \$40.00

Lilla's Lace TB, 36" (91 cm), ML. Bright peachy-golden yellow. Falls with large lighter central area and darker yellow beards. Lavishly laced and heavily ruffled. Excellent branching, sturdy stalks with 7-9 buds that withstand our mountaintop high winds. Fertile both ways. (Sweetheart Ring X (Orien x Romantic Mood))...\$40.00

Maroon Moon TB, 35" (89 cm), ML. Flared, lightly ruffled, smooth maroon self with maroon beards. Lovely velvety texture. Nice stalks. Impressive landscape effect. (Study in Black X Time Lord). \$20.00

My Ginny TB, 32" (81 cm) ML. Fully flared, lightly laced and sinuously ruffled bicolor with pearl pink standards and style arms, falls with wide purplish pink border grading smoothly to light pink zonal area, and showy tangerine beards, white at end, and cherry red in throat. Winner of the 1999 Alice Bouldin Award for Region 4 best seedling. Vigorous with rapid increase. Widely branched stalks with 7-10 buds. Great parent both ways. (Sweet Musette x Femme Fatale) X (Winifred Ross x My Katie). \$45.00

Pink Caresses TB, 32" (81 cm), ML. Flared, lightly laced, and ruffled peach pink (RHS 37D) self, wide touching falls with lighter area around tangerine (40C) beards. Sturdy stalks with 7-9 buds. A garden favorite with impressive landscape effect. Fertile both ways (Romantic Mood X Pink Pink). \$20.00

Persimmon Pie BB, 25" (63.5 cm), E and **RE** (September in zone 6). Creamy light yellow-orange self with darker beards the color of ripe persimmons. Lightly ruffled. Domed standards. Sturdy stalks with 5-7 buds. Floriferous in spring and the fall. Sweet persimmon fragrance. (Ozark Evening X Roney's Encore). \$25.00

Raspberry Silk BB, 26" (66 cm), M. Variegated deep raspberry splashes on white ground with light pink infusions. Light pink style arms. Tangerine beards. Wide and ruffled. Vigorous growth and increase. Two E. C.s. Best seedling at 1998 C&P spring show. Like a beautiful silk scarf. (Peach Jam X Little John). \$25.00

Rejoice and Sing TB, 36" (91 cm), ML. Wide, lightly laced, ruffled white with hint of pink. Eye-catching baby ribbon pink beards. Slight sweet fragrance completes its pure feminine charm. Can cause a garden sensation. Sturdy, well-branched stalks, 7-9 buds. Fertile both ways. (Caption X Supreme Lady). \$40.00

Sara Marley BB, 25" (63.5 cm), ML. Fully flared with fluted ruffling and lace. White with pink cast. Rosy peach at base of standards and on falls beside and beyond the tangerine beards that have white tips. Excellent branching to 9 buds. Exceptional substance. (Sweet Musette x Femme Fatale) X Champagne Elegance) Named for past C&P President and Region 4 RVP, present AIS Secretary, and friend. \$25.00

Sheba's Flame BB, 23" (58 cm), M and **RE** (October in zone 6). Flared, lightly ruffled with roasted tomato colored falls, darker standards, and style arms with yellow edges giving inside interest. A yellow glow extends in the falls out from the rich yellow beards. Fertile. (Homecoming Queen X Sheba's Queen). \$25.00

Tenderly (Nearpass/C&P) TB, 36" (91 cm), EM and **RE** (October in zone 6&7). Lightly ruffled and flared ivory white self with inner pink infusions and warm yellow glow between peachy pink venation extending from the tangerine beards. Edge of wide falls bordered light pink. Unique, subtle color. Widely branched, sturdy stalks with 7-9 buds. (Ambrosia Delight RE-9 X 0-76-15: involved parentage with pod parent having Emma Cook, Enchanted Violet, Pretty Carol, Lady of Loudoun, Country Music, etc. and pollen parent having Whole Cloth, Snow Flurry, sibling of Graduation Gift, Lilting Melody, and Robin Redbreast). All profits divided equally between his family and C&P Iris Society youth fund. \$40.00

Yosemite Sam TB, 33" (84 cm), ML. Ruffled, lightly laced bitone with rose pink standards. Style arms with peach pink borders. Falls have deep reddish violet centers appearing like a SDB's "pumila-like" spot and wide rose pink borders and midlines. The showy tangerine beards have white sunburst patterns on each side like big "mustaches." Passes "pumila-like" spot to offspring. Fertile both ways. (Abigail Provides X Lorilee). \$35.00

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Vossen seedling V9 31-13



JEWELLED VEIL (L. Rich '78)

Northwest Arilbreds

All photos this page by Marky Smith.

ARABIAN MIDNIGHT (L. Rich '89)



DESERT MOONLIGHT (L. Rich/Whitely '90)



Group of Arils: SHEBA'S JEWEL, PERSIAN PADISHA, and TURKISH PENDANT.

Photo: Marky Smith.



Northwest Arilbreds

Lilies of the Field

by Marky Smith, Washington State

*"Consider the lilies of the field.
They toil not, neither do they spin . . ."*

CONSIDER THE IRISES WITH ARIL BLOOD, ONE OR MORE SPECIES OF which may be these Biblical "lilies", that flourish in the dry climate of Israel. There are no true lilies there; but the exotic Arils are at home from the Negev Desert north through Galilee, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, and into the Caucasus mountains of southern Russia. They also extend eastward, from Turkey into Iran, to the border of Afghanistan. The various species grow 1000 feet below sea level in the Jordan Rift and over 9000 feet high in the northern mountains. Rainfall in these habitats varies with geography; it may be as little as 6 inches or less in the Negev and as much as 20 inches at higher altitude.

Consider the irises with Aril blood in the Northwest. With all that rain? Well, it's true that west of the Cascades rainfall is in excess, (sometimes wretched excess,) of 30 inches annually; and the maritime climate is directly opposed to the native Aril environment. Arnold Ferguson of Tacoma grows pure Arils from David Shahak, an Israeli hybridizer; but Arnold takes elaborate measures to keep the plants as dry as possible. On the other hand, east of the Cascades, where rainfall averages 5 – 8 inches a year and sagebrush flourishes on uncultivated land, the upper and lower Yakima valleys fit much of the near East climate profile, with hot, dry summers. Winters may or may not be as friendly.

Four summers past, I considered the Aril family for the first time, planting TURKISH PENDANT, SERAPH'S JEWEL and SHEBA'S JEWEL, three OGBs, which are 50% Aril and 50% Tall Bearded. Additional test cultivars were PERSIAN PADISHAH, SYRIAN JEWEL, and ALON, all three-quarter Aril blood, written OGB+ (irises with one quarter Aril blood are noted as OGB-).

The winter of 1995 – 1996 included temperatures of 60° in January and -20° in February. None of the plants died, half of them bloomed in the spring and one set seed. I was encouraged and added six more OGB-OGB+. The winter of 1996 – 1997 brought six feet of snow, which lasted

from mid-November to mid-March and compressed into ice sheets from repeated rains and freezing. Again, nothing died; and the two-year clumps bloomed as show stoppers in the garden.

By now, I was more than just encouraged, as was my friend, Millie Grow, who lives about 45 miles to the southeast in the lower valley. Each of us added over 50 cultivars with some degree of Aril blood, from OGB- to pure Aril, in the summer of 1997.

The Grow garden, in Prosser, Washington, is the warmer of the two, with temperatures seldom falling below 15°, except during Arctic-spawned storms. The upper valley Smith garden, in Yakima proper, has temperatures as low as -20° during those same extremes, and zero and below are not unusual sometime during the winter.

The 1997-1998 winter was the El Niño year, and very mild, never below 15° in my garden, with very little rain or snow. Almost all of my 60 plants survived, (save for *i. samariae* and *i. susiana*). Millie's 75 cultivars did as well. The 1998 - 1999 winter was not so fortuitous. La Niña left record snows in the Cascades, but only 3 - 5 inches of snow in Yakima all winter, where the normal is 24 inches. More damaging than the "open winter" and dryness, was a sudden freeze a few days before Christmas. Fall and early December had recorded only light frosts here, so plants were not prepared for the dramatic drop to -3° here and 9° for Millie where plants were still actively growing. Pure Arils, save for ANDROMACHE, (which has never bloomed,) were freeze-dried beyond help, and the OGB+s suffered moderate to severe damage. A second severe freeze occurred in February, after a mild, dry January, and that polished off more of the three-quarterbreds. But the 50% OGB Arilbreds survived mostly unscathed as did the quarter-bred OGB-s, and most bloomed spectacularly this past spring.

These are the gardeners' choices for 1999. Note: not all cultivars match their registered descriptions perfectly, due to local climates and soils.

Millie Grow:

CLEOPATRA'S BEAUTY (Nichols '86) OGB-, 16" (Aril-med), One branch, 3 buds. Lavender-pink standards; blended rose, lavender and beige falls with a ¼" black line below bronze beard. Very early, always a mass of blossoms.

*LOUDMOUTH (Rich '70) OGB-, 10", (Aril med), 2 buds, no branches. A burgundy violet self, veined darker violet on the haft and recurved falls. Large black signal, surrounding tip of orange beards.

*SHE DEVIL (Black '96) OGB-, 23" (Aril-med), one branch, 3 buds. Rose maroon standards; brick red falls; dark red-brown signal, gold beard. Excellent.

BOLD SENTRY (Peterson '83) OGB-, 34", 2 branches, 4 buds. Blue-lavender standards; medium tan falls, heavily dusted crimson; small black signal; huge black-purple beard.

MOON DUST (H. Danielson '75) OGB, 24", (Aril med), one branch, 3 buds. Tan standards; golden tan falls, with darker red-toned spotting on both. Large red-black signal. Very pretty.

*OYEZ (White '38) OGB, medium height, 2 buds. Off white with maroon pattern and veining. Ages gracefully and still attractive when fading. A favorite.

*SHEBA'S JEWEL (Shockey '94) OGB, 28", one branch, 3 buds. White; large maroon crescent signal, light bronze beard. Clean and crisp.

*LANCER (Shockey '95) OGB, 28", one branch, 3 buds. Orchid lavender self; large black signal and gold beard. Sib to Sheba's Jewel

JORDAN GIRL (Ross/McKusick '82) OGB, 12" (Aril-med), 2 buds. Small candy apple red, trimmed with fine black lines; violet beard. Great color.

HOT ICE (Rich '94) OGB, 27", 2 branches, 4 buds. Fuchsia pink; small brown chevron signal and orange beard

QUEEN SHEBA (Shockey '93) OGB, 28" one branch, 3 buds. White to pale buff standards; pale buff falls; large burgundy signal and yellow beard.

SERAPH'S JEWEL (Shockey '92) OGB, 27", 2 buds. White standards; white recurved falls with maroon signal.

SKY SIGNAL (Shockey '79) OGB+, 25", 2 buds. Pale blue; small violet-blue chevron signal, bisected by a white slash; yellow to white beards. Distinctive color.

Marky Smith:

*ARABIAN MIDNIGHT (L. Rich '89) OGB+, 24", 2-3 buds. Marvelous, one of the best. Dark purple, veined standards; near black, glossy falls, black signal and beard.

JEWELLED VEIL (L. Rich '78) OB+, 32", 1 bud. Lavender standards with deeper, thin veins. Tan-gold falls, heavily veined dark brown. Black-brown signal, purple beard.

ATTEN (Shockey '93) OGB, 27". Orchid violet standards; rose orchid falls; near black signal, bronze beards.

BRONZE AGE (Rich/Whitely '92) OGB, 30". Bronze tan standards; bronze falls; dark brown signal lined darker; bronze beard.

DESERT ATTIRE (Shockey '97) OGB, 22". Violet standards with small self veins. Light tan falls, deeper blush on lower petals. Dark ruby signal, yellow beard.

*DESERT FURY (Shockey '94) OGB, 30". Dark mulberry red self; diffused red-black signal, dark red beards. Dramatic in bloom.

*DESERT MOONLIGHT (L. Rich/Whitely '90) OGB, 25". Fluted white standards; bright lemon yellow falls, henna brown signal and yellow-orange beard. Very clean colors and consistently one of the best.

*DESERT PLUM (Hager '92) OGB, 34". Smoky mauve purple; black maroon signal, bronze-black beard. Lots of stalks and impact.

*ENERGIZER (Shockey '95) OGB, 28". Dark lavender standards; buff falls, lightly overlaid violet and heavily recurved. Extremely large dark purple-brown signal, yellow beard. Easily fertile both ways, huge pods.

TURKISH HEART (Shockey '90) OGB, 28". White standards; citron yellow falls with dark chestnut heart signal, yellow beards. Fades slightly.

Seedlings:


*Shockey 94-106C - 3 buds. Medium violet standards and rosy tan falls. Wide, full flowers, and the latest plant to bloom. Excellent both this year and last.

*Vossen V9-31-13 - 2 buds. Dramatic clump, which stops all visitors. Heavily veined red-violet standards; large falls with veined maroon shoulders to solid maroon centers. Black signal, gold beard. Substance; does not fade.

*Starred varieties are those which really excelled in these two gardens.

The Arilbreds get little special attention in either garden. In Yakima, they are planted on a 6 inch raised ridge of soil, (alkaline, fine clay, amended with alfalfa or bark,) where they get normal irrigation, (some over-head, some trench water,) as do the bearded irises during the spring. In summer, they receive only slightly less water than other mature irises, though the pure Arils are left almost dry. Bloom season corresponds to late Standard Dwarf through the Intermediate season.

Those of us who garden east of the Cascades struggle, and often fail, with much that the Northwest enjoys to the west of the Cascades. Pacific Coast native and hybrids, 40 chromosome Siberians and Cal-Sibes, and the Japanese are not for us without heroic measures. But the Aril family provides us with dramatic material to remedy that lack. If you live in the mountain west where temperatures are not more extreme than those listed, and you are looking for exotic additions to your garden, consider testing a few of these "lilies" for yourself for a wonderful burst of additional color. Then you too may agree that

"Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed as such as these." 

The Hybridizers Speak

Recent Introductions

by Bruce Filardi, Oregon

GATHERING INFORMATION FOR THIS ARTICLE HAS BEEN A tremendous amount of fun! Every day for the last month, I've looked forward to the mail delivery to see what new responses I'd receive to my questionnaire.

I started out by sending a survey to over 100 leading hybridizers in all areas. I solicited their opinions on leading newer intros from other hybridizers and from themselves, and I asked about exciting new things in their seedling beds. I received about 75% response. Special thanks to Rick Ernst, Tom Burseen, Vern Wood, Marky Smith, and Chad Harris for being the first five to get their answers back to me, and to Perry Dyer for providing a true wealth of information. And sincere thanks to everyone who took the time to reply and share their observations.

Although I tried to cover a wide range of specialists in bearded and beardless irises, the large majority of the responses dealt exclusively with TB's. Generally, hybridizers are not only looking for all the general traits that make up an excellent plant; they are also looking for that elusive "distinctiveness" or uniqueness that is the difference between a good plant and an extraordinary one. The hybridizers' top three choices for outstanding newer introductions were: 1. MIDNIGHT OIL (Keppel '98); 2. STARSHIP ENTERPRISE (Schreiner '99); and 3. (tie) UNCLE CHARLIE (Spoon '99) and WILD WINGS (Keppel '99). Among the top 15 choices, Keith Keppel showed the way with a whopping five introductions.

Following are the top 15 choices, in alphabetical order, with typical comments received on the questionnaire:

BALLET ROYALE (Wood '99). "While in the Parrish Garden during the Oklahoma Convention, I saw a vision of loveliness tucked in one of the landscape beds. This flower has exquisite proportion, a pleasant ruffle, heavy substance, all done in a mink smooth medium pink self ... 3 good branches and a healthy clump." "A wonderful pink with the most startling red beards. Late blooming but ... withstands heat."

CHASING RAINBOWS (Hager '98). "Wonderful color, form, and branching, and good growth habits." "Size, form, and an appealing blend of color." "The latest from the master."

CROWNED HEADS (Keppel '97). "Beautiful form in a reverse blue/white bicolor." "Stunning reverse blue amoena with the richest saturation seen in this pattern. Broad, glorious, majestic form. Outstanding plant habits." "CROWNED HEADS is by far the closest to a true reverse amoena that has surfaced, after so many have struggled for so long ... to produce something more contrasty ... It's the first to show intense color throughout the standards, rather than just at the base and 'bleeding' somewhat up the petals. The falls aren't actually white, but maybe that's the next step."

DIABOLIQUE (Schreiner '97). "The best from a high-quality line of rich violets. Tough and strong. Form is wide with very well-positioned ruffling throughout the flower." "Nice color, fabulous branching, and outstanding bud count ... Flowers could be a little larger."

FJORD (R.Nelson '96). "Flowers similar to SILVERADO but with tall, well branched and budded stalks, and super vigor. Clean, healthy plants." "A very dependable bloomer with a beautiful stalk—often will have four blooms open at one time. A blue-white, clean color."

FOGBOUND (Keppel '98). "Unique coloring—blue with pink radiating from the heart." "... throwing very pretty seedlings..."

HEARTBREAK HOTEL (Sutton '98). "Big, modern formed Space Ager." "Great form, branching, bud count with a beautiful flower, appendages, and lace." "... an exquisite Space Ager. In addition, a great parent."

HEAVEN (Ghio '98). "Unique coloring breakthrough." "I would vote for Ghio's HEAVEN for its rosy shoulder pattern on a tangerine bearded white if it were a stronger grower." "George Shoop's SANTA and Joe Ghio's HEAVEN are the most strikingly unusual, both individually and in potential for future breeding."

MIDNIGHT OIL (Keppel '98). "The blackest to date. Broad ... velvet finish." "... intense color" "MIDNIGHT OIL impressed us with its velvety blackness. [It] has great substance, flaring, wide form, 36" stalks, and it grows well for us."

OCELOT (Ghio '98). "This one looks like genetic treasure to me. Potential for tangerine bearded bicolors in virtually every color combination." "Good color saturation bicolor, smooth hafts, tangerine factor." "Lovely clarity of color ... very pollen fertile ... difficult to pod so far."

SANTA (Shoop '98). "SANTA and HEAVEN are showing the beard color spread out onto the hafts, which MAYBE gives the possibility to do what Orville Fay so hoped to do in the '60s, namely, to get the strong tangerine shades available in beards spread across the whole petal, resulting in a lycopene red iris ... this may or may not ultimately happen, but it's fun to contemplate."

SEA POWER (Keppel '99). "Fantastic ruffles, rich marine blues with lighter edge." "The quintessential form of ruffling ... It has everything it needs for a modern day iris."

STARSHIP ENTERPRISE (Schreiner '99). "One of the best color patterns I've seen, but needs more vigor..." "Best color, contrast, flashiness." "Distinct new pattern and coloring."

UNCLE CHARLIE (Spoon '99). "Mid-lavender blue that has it all: buds, branching, vigor, form. From HONKY TONK BLUES and SILVERADO, how can you lose?" "UNCLE CHARLIE is one of those uncommon cultivars that produce both excellent clumps in the garden and stalks that compete well on the show bench." "Excellent growth and increase in diverse areas of the US." "It has ruffled closed standards and sinuous ruffling in its arching falls, and great growth and increase. Its sturdy stalks and flower substance allow it to hold up even in high winds and rain."

WILD WINGS (Keppel '99). "... form, smoothness, tangerine factor 'black'." "Best new intro for '99 I've seen... A tighter, better-formed version of its parent, the great ROMANTIC EVENING (Ghio) with a thick brick red beard. Has a wonderful satin sheen throughout. Weather resistant." "Top notch and certainly stands alone in the color class... Coal black falls, that deep brick beard is the clincher."

Other TB's that received mention but didn't quite make the Top 15 were: AMERICAN EAGLE (Sutton '98), ARCTIC FOX (Wood '98), CHEVALIER DE MALTE (Cayeux '98), CORDOBA (Ghio '98), FATAL ATTRACTION (Kerr '96), LARUE BOSWELL (Wood '98), LITTLE JOHN (Spoon '96), SPLASHACATA (Tasco '98), SUDDEN IMPACT (Tasco '99), THIN BLUE LINE (Sutton '99), TRANS ORANGE (Niswonger '99), VIBRANT (Black '99), and WORLD PREMIER (Schreiner '98).

Before moving on to the other classes, I'd like to mention a few overlooked TB's that are distinctive standouts but seem to avoid widespread recognition. These are: ASCII ART (Moores '97), a beautiful, crisp mid-blue plicata with rebloom tendency; CRAZY FOR YOU (Blyth '98), unusual amoena with grayish-pink washed falls; CRYSTAL

RING (Terada '97), a perky mid-blue-violet amoena, floriferous and vigorous; LASTING ROMANCE (Aitken '99), a stunning peach pink with heavy substance and sequential bloomstalks; OWYHEE DESERT (Pinkston '97), another one with distinctive color, a rusty wash over creamy background, with some color variation depending on temperature; and—last but not least—SEAKIST (Schreiner '97), one of my all-time favorite irises, creamy white/ivory standards over falls washed various shades of blue, truly unique.

As mentioned earlier, there was much less input in the non-TB categories. Among the BB's, hybridizers liked HONEY CUB (Kasperek '98), "Good flower form, good stem and clump, unique broken color pattern in yellow with tan streaks."; ORANGE POP (Lauer '98), "Rich, vivacious full orange with deeper beard. Very vigorous ... flowers and stalks in class."; ROMANTIC INTERLUDE (Varner '96), "Bright yellow with a clean white area in the falls. East to West, North to South, it performs well and stays in class."

The IB's which received mention were STARWOMAN (M. Smith '98), "A very well-formed, very dark purple plicata." "Excellent color contrast/patterning in plicata; growth exemplary."; and MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM (Baumunk '99), "Reblooms well in cold climate areas; smooth dark purple with form." A few MTB's received mention from their own hybridizers, but the only one to receive mention from another hybridizer was RAVE REVIEW (Jim & Vicki Craig '92), with the following description: "Soft lavender, punctuated by beautiful pink beards ... An entire row put up magnificent show stalks with great branching and super flower form ... a soul-satisfying sight."

The favorite SDB was RUBY ERUPTION (Chapman '97), a plant that is unknown to me, but it sounds like one to get! One hybridizer described it as "Yellow based plicata, heavily saturated in deep ruby-red to chocolate-brown stitching. Screams across the garden. Magnificent form. Overlooked thus far, unfortunately." Other SDB's which received mention were two from Marky Smith: MINIDRAGON ('98), "The most exciting new SDB in a dozen years. Rich silky black with a red-black underglow and a huge, spectacular carrot-red beard. Extremely vigorous."; and MARKSMAN ('99), "... has supersaturated orange color, with good form and a huge red beard".

In the beardless area, the standout Spuria was ADRIATIC BLUE (Niswonger '96), praised as "an exceptional shade of blue; grows well with large flower, multiple blooms". Favorite JI's were SING THE BLUES (Reid '97), "Best light blue (rare color in a JI) of modern ruf-

fled form with double branching”; ALPINE MAJESTY (Aitken '97), “A beautiful white, ruffled and lovely, and it makes such a wonderful clump in the garden, with the blooms well above the foliage”; and PINKERTON (Bauer/Coble '99), “The best true pink ... the first pink JI with plant vigor, flower form, bud count, substance, and good color.” No Siberians received multiple mentions.

Well-regarded Louisianas were: DAISY JANE (Hutchinson '99), “soft lemon self of great beauty, excellent substance, good bud count, vigor and health”; DURAL LATECOMER (Taylor '97), “pink with yellow styles, extraordinary form”; NAVAJO PRINCESS (Shepard '99), “appealing color combination”; and BAYOU BLUEBIRD (Rowlan '99), “excellent, well-formed bluebird blue, grows well in northern climates”. ❧



Clucks from Mama Robin

❧ Isn't it too bad that we can't seem to keep a Fragrance Robin flying? Five restarts in the last few years have been pretty discouraging.

❧ Wouldn't it be nice if some of the “old hands” at hybridizing would ask to direct a new Hybridizing Robin, so that we could get one started again?

❧ We also have a shortage of Space Age enthusiasts, which is keeping that robin on the ground.

❧ And it would be oh, so nice if the leaders of all AIS Sections and Cooperating Societies would report, once in a while, to Mama Robin on whether or not they have robins flying. It would be better to be able to refer would-be members to those robins, rather than launching a new robin without benefit of specialized knowledge of the subject.

- *From Libby Cross, Virginia*

The Hybridizers Speak

Introductions in 2000

by Bruce Filardi, Oregon

AS MENTIONED IN MY PREVIOUS ARTICLE, I POLLED hybridizers for reports on interesting plants in their seedling beds. Some responded with news of their 2000 introductions, while others looked further down the road. In both cases, there are certainly some standout new irises on their way! Thanks to all who shared this information.

Among the TB's to be introduced in 2000, probably the most exciting news (to me) is the fact that this year will bring us two new black-and-white amoenas. Lowell Baumunk will give us MIDNIGHT MOONLIGHT (TEMPTING FATE X (TWIST OF FATE x RIDE THE WIND)), and STARRING will come from Joe Ghio. STARRING's pedigree is unknown, but it is believed to have ROMANTIC EVENING as one parent; it's topped off with a bright red beard.

For two years now, iris lovers in Washington State have been talking about an outstanding, unintroduced seedling from the late, great hybridizer Opal Brown. I'm an admirer of her work, so I've been eager to see this iris. Margaret McCrae registered it in 1998 as CLASSIC HUES, and it will finally be available in 2000 from Paul Black's Mid-America Gardens. It is described as "a clear blend of apricot and yellow, with heavy substance" and the 'buzz' is that it's something special.

Pink irises are always popular, but good ones can be hard to find. It sounds like 2000 will help remedy that situation! Virginia Messick has two standouts this year: Her ruffled and pleated BRIDESMAID IN PINK is an advance in the pink amoena class, and she also has ROSY OUTLOOK, an extremely ruffled and laced rosy pink tinged bronze. ROSY OUTLOOK is not tall, but it has good substance and growth habits. The talented hybridizer Fred Kerr is releasing his first pink, TENDER MERCY, in a light shade. New hybridizer Ed Attenberger looks like he'll be heard from quite a bit in the future; this year he has two orchid-pink beauties, both with red-orange beard: the lighter-toned LACY HAGOOD and the deeper COUNTY CARNIVAL.

Moving to the yellow/orange/peach area, there are some exciting new plants. Oscar Schick will give us LAST TANGO, with cream stan-

dards infused light peach, creamy yellow falls, and bright orange beards; it has heavy lace and heavy substance. Larry Lauer has been working for a while for an improved yellow with blue beard; his efforts have taken a step forward with this year's cleverly named MAGIC BUS. Joe Ghio will present AMPLIFIED, an eye-catching bright yellow-orange with excellent form and all-around performance. Leroy Meininger has a 2000 release slated for his seedling #RS-2, an unusual Space Ager with ruffled light peach standards with lavender influence, peach cream centered falls blending to peach at the edge, and orange beards finished off with light lavender flounces or horns tipped with yellow fuzzy hairs! Cooley's will introduce MCKELLAR'S GROVE, a deep orange self from Ben Hager's ongoing legacy of fine plants.

George Sutton has a beautiful bubble-ruffled cream with immaculate branching and high bud count. It comes from a combination of American and English breeding lines; its name, appropriately enough, is DEVONSHIRE CREAM.

Some irises are awfully hard to place in a specific color category. One of these is Rick Ernst's RING AROUND ROSIE, a product of his fascinating long-term EDNA'S WISH/WILD JASMINE breeding program. It has white standards with a gold-gilt edge, and falls are a violet purple plic sanded pattern with a yellow rim. Sounds great! In the hard-to-categorize colors, we also have Lowell Baumunk's LIGHTS CAMERA ACTION, a highly distinctive combination of lavender and reddish hues, with nice form and healthy plants; it is a child of HONKY TONK BLUES and ECSTATIC ECHO. Leroy Meininger has an unusual one, too; named LACY LINDA, all petals are heavily laced, standards are lavender purple with gold lavender trim, over pansy purple falls with darkening edges. Brad Kasperek's beautiful broken color creations are always hard to classify; he feels that one of the best is his new MILLENNIUM FALCON, a tall, clean blue broken color neglecta.

Three new dark irises enter the scene in 2000, all with powerful names. The Schreiners give us GHOST TOWN, described as an intense deep black with good stalk and branching; Oscar Schick offers DRAGONHEART, a very dark black cherry self with a starburst of blue white radiating from the black cherry/copper beards; and from Sutton's we will hear the rumble of AUTUMN THUNDER, a beautiful violet purple rebloomer with breakthrough form for a remontant iris.

Another remontant is Clarence Mahan's CHRISTIANE ELIZABETH, a dependable cold climate rebloomer from I DO X SUKY. CHRISTIANE ELIZABETH has the SUKY double white

zonal pattern and comes as close to a true blue as any dependable rebloomer available.

Chun Fan always seems to come out with some outstanding irises. This year he's introducing SWEET MEI, a very bright blue violet with an eye-catching bright gold beard. It has beautiful form and balance, and very clean foliage. SWEET MEI's breeding is TWILIGHT BLAZE X HONKY TONK BLUES. Another new intro from Ben Hager via Cooley's is WORLD WITHOUT END, a ruffled deep violet self.

Helen Cochran releases her highly-regarded SHARIKA this year, a tall ruffled white suffused blue in the heart, with strong stalks and very high bud count. SHARIKA is a sibling to her very successful JACKS ARE BETTER ('98).

Plicata offerings include GARNET ETCHING from Walter Moores, a different patterned red-on-yellow plicata with garnet thumb-prints; this one sounds like it has interesting breeding potential. George Sutton will offer MOMENTOUS OCCASION, another breakthrough in form and color for a Space Ager; it's a clean white ground and violet blue plic with flounces which replicate the falls.

One of my favorite areas is the development of the "Emma Cook pattern". It looks like there are three on my wish list for 2000! Fred Kerr has been working very successfully in this area for a few years now, and this year he'll bring us QUEEN'S CIRCLE, which he describes as "similar to [BB] CHRISTIANA BAKER, but tall bearded with tangerine beards".

The Schreiners will offer LIGHTSHINE, described as having the "Starship Enterprise" pattern with good growth habits. Don Spoon has a beauty with pink standards and white falls grading to a dark rose violet rim, with showy cherry red beards; it has exceptional vigor and bears the name MY GINNY. (Gee, I wonder who it's named after!)

Outside of the TB's, we have several interesting newcomers. Jim & Vicki Craig will release ROYAL OVATION, a BB with standards and style arms of antique gold, over light blue falls edged in the standard color. It has plenty of buds and nicely ruffled flowers. I've been eagerly awaiting release of Marky Smith's SDB DENALI, and we'll see that this year, too; it's from pure luminata breeding but unlike any other luminata: it's a white flower with dark blue veins; white petal rims, styles, and area around the pale beard. DENALI is a strong, long-blooming plant.


2000 sounds like a banner year for new JI's. Chad Harris has two winners: BLUSHING SNOWMAIDEN, 9F with great form and bloom sequence, all blooms above foliage, pleasing color pattern, good vigor

and plant habits; and AVALANCHE EXPRESS, also a 9F with the same attributes, but in stark white. Bob Bauer and John Coble will offer CRESTED SURF, a 6F white with thin blue veins and multiple blue style arms standing up in the middle of the dome-shaped bloom. John White will offer DIRIGO PINK MILESTONE, a clear pink with blooms 8½" – 9" across, and long bloom season, and DIRIGO OLD HUNDRED, red violet veins on white, which earned its name for staying in bloom for 104 days from first to last bloom. Currier McEwen wrote to sing the praises of DIRIGO PINK MILESTONE, too, as well as telling us about his JI introduction for 2000: MAINE CHARM, a soft blue tet with green signals and lovely wide, ruffled form.

Siberian intros include TORNADO ROSE (2000 or 2001), a multi-petal SIB from Bauer/Coble, with 12 – 18 petals of rose-lavender forming 3½" blooms on branched stalks; and MERRY SPRING from Currier McEwen, a soft yellow tetraploid with green tints and green veins.

Louisianas continue to grow in popularity both in the US and in Australia. Heather & Bernard Pryor's Iris Haven has two standout 1999/2000 intros: UNIQUE STYLE, a horned and frilled LA bicolor of soft lemon and fuchsia pink; its style arms are exceptionally frilled, horned, and sometimes spooned; and WAIHI WEDDING, a white with apple green style arms whose edges turn back and give the bloom unique interest. Bernard Pryor has been concentrating on the Water Sprite line of shorter LA's, and the 2000/2001 season holds two of particular interest: ALICIA CLARE, a pastel creamy lemon self of excellent form, growing less than 30" tall; and HERITAGE AMETHYST, a delightful lavender self with excellent form, bud placement, and substance. Don Shepard will be introducing a large orange LA named PUMPKIN CHIFFON, with good branching and bud count.

In other beardless classes, Charles Jenkins has AMANDA'S EYES, a dainty baby-blue spuria. Debby Cole's PCN DRACULARITY will be introduced by The Iris Gallery; its bloom is an upright dark red trumpet with a ⅛" ruffled pinkish white rim on all petals; its heart is gold. Blooms last 3 – 5 days each, and it transplants better than many other PCN's.

When I started this project, my intention was to write one article. However, the wealth of information received from the hybridizers has provided material for three separate segments. A future article will discuss seedlings slated for introduction in 2001 or later. 

Variegated Foliage

VARIEGATED PLANTS HAVE A FASCINATION ALL THEIR OWN. Why or how do they occur? What is the range of their diversity? Can variegation be bred? We have contacted a variety of irisarians who agreed to share their experiences.

Variegation in Iris Species

by Jean Witt, Washington State

Interest in plants with variegated foliage has been increasing of late, and this applies as well to the genus *Iris*. The handful of varieties which have been with us since early in the century has been augmented in recent years by several new introductions, and the numbers continue to grow. The current roster—not guaranteed complete—looks like this:

I. pallida 'Argentea' (G. & K. 1906, photo: page 40), striking green and white foliage; light blue flowers.

I. pallida 'Variegata' (Krelage, photo: page 40). Listed by Barr in 1901. Leaf stripes are yellow rather than white. This plant is often catalogued as 'Zebra', though the original 'Zebra' from Kelway & Sons in 1906 had white flowers striped in blue rather than striped foliage.

I. laevigata 'Variegata' (photo: page 39). Medium blue flowers, beautiful white and green striped foliage, introduced by Van Tubergen in 1916. Remarkable for its conspicuous white spathes and white striped stems.

I. japonica 'Odiham' (R.J. Henley, R. 1994), a six-petaled blue flower; striped green and white foliage. (*I. laevigata* 'Variegata' x an *I. laevigata* with six falls.)

I. japonica 'Aphrodite', distributed by Sprenger, an Italian nurseryman and plant collector about 1907. Clean white/green foliage, evergreen. Less vigorous than the type, this one has never bloomed for me. Probably of Oriental origin, as I saw the same sort of plant in gardens in Korea in 1982.

I. foetidissima 'Variegata' (John Salter 1862, photo: page 40). White/green striped leaves; evergreen.

I. ensata 'Silverband' (Bauer-Coble R. 1989, photo: page 40). Flowers dark red-violet. Silver white and cream variegated foliage; plant from Japan.

I. ensata "Ghost", C. Klein, Globe Cottage Gardens, unregistered. "A seedling in our garden: wonderful white-variegated leaves."

I. setosa. (Photo: page 39) At least one plant with variegated foliage has been in distribution. Its pattern is less regular than those of other species; gives some variegated progeny.

I. tectorum. At least one variegated form has been in commerce, not registered.

As for other groups, there appear to be no variegated *Spurias* at present, but a *Spuria* “*foliis variegatis*” was listed by Barr in 1905. Variegated and/or white Siberian seedlings have been reported from time to time, and I’ve heard rumors of a variegated Louisiana in Terry Aitken’s garden (see article, page 75). A few all-white PCN seedlings have appeared in Joe Ghio’s garden, but no permanent variegation—and he has probably grown as many PCN seedlings as anyone.

I. pseudacorus “*foliis variegatis*” (John Salter 1861, photo: page 39). Leaves strikingly striped pale yellow-chartreuse in early spring, turning green later in the season. Three instances of all-yellow-leaved plants having this form as pod parent have appeared in England in recent years and are described by Jennifer Hewitt in *SIGNA* 62: 3217-18, Spring 1999. Two have been registered: BLONDIE (R.W. Bloomfield R. '94) with foliage entirely cream early in the season, later green; and LIME SORBET (R.C. Brown R. '98) with all new foliage creamy lime green, turning full darker green later. Among the three reported, two were single occurrences in otherwise green progenies; the last was selected from a whole batch of yellow seedlings. Jennifer asks, why are these only turning up in England?

I can attest that yellow-leaved sports do happen elsewhere; last spring toward the end of April I saw at least two all-yellow plants in a stand of *I. pseudacorus* lining a borrow-pit pond along Interstate 90 just west of Ellensburg, Washington. The leaves were about six inches high when I first saw them, and much taller but still yellow a month later (our spring was very cold and late). I did not see them in bloom, and don’t know whether they turned all-green later. I would describe these plants as golden yellow rather than chartreuse, and they must have arisen by direct mutation from their green companions, since they have all seeded into these areas on their own and the variegated garden form is not involved.

In all of the above, the stripes are vertical. There are, however, some reports of cross-wise striping.

I. setosa subsp. *canadensis* f. *zonalis*, now a form of *I. hookeri*. From St. George Bay, Newfoundland. “Leaves with transverse white or yellowish-white bands; these bands sometimes more or less bordered with red.”

Two other cases of cross-wise striping have come to my attention. One involves *I. pseudacorus*, where Lech Komarnicki in Poland had two

such seedlings which retained their variegation until fall. Lorena Reid reports that her Sinosiberian ANTICIPATION ORANGE “frequently has crosswise stripes on the lower foliage (not all leaves are striped, but some are, on most clumps).” In addition, the leaf bases of this variety are tinted pale orange (like the flowers) just above the ground line where most plants of this group are white.

The big question is, of course, can we breed for variegated foliage? Results to date are not very conclusive. Plants with green and white striped foliage are chimeras; that is, they have lost their ability to produce chlorophyll in one or more layers of plant tissues. Tilney-Bassett in his book “Plant Chimeras” says that most chimeras originate as a spontaneous mutation occurring in a single cell of the growing point, which then spreads to become an entire layer of mutant cells as the plant develops. Visual effects vary, depending on the number of layers of tissue involved—usually two or three. In the linear leaves of monocots, such as grasses and irises, the usual effect is longitudinal striping. In plants whose layers are normally WGG (that is, white/green/green), just one mutation can result in GWG and GGW; two mutations would be required to produce WWG, GWW, or WGW. Tilney-Bassett lists *Iris japonica* and *Iris pallida* as examples of GWG sandwich structure, that is, loss of chlorophyll in the middle layer. The difficulties of breeding for variegated foliage are well illustrated by variegated Oat Grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius* var. *bulbosum*) in which the flowering stems and seed heads are completely white—any seed produced would have no chlorophyll. An *I. chrysographes* x *I. forestii* seedling of mine with a limited amount of white striping on the early spring leaves, gives a high percentage of all-white seedlings when selfed. Presumably it has lost the chlorophyll from an inner layer, but not the outer. As the leaves develop, the outer layer can overgrow any white tissue that peeks through; it seems unlikely that this plant will ever produce a really good white-striped seedling.

The instance of the six-petaled variegated *I. laevigata* which arose from a three-petaled variegated form as pod parent suggests that the leaf variegation can sometimes be passed on by the female parent. Note, however, that from the variegated *I. pseudacorus* as pod parent, only all-yellow seedlings were produced.

Darrell Probst has provided a little more information on results from his somewhat irregularly variegated *I. setosa* (nicknamed “Striped Mama”). It produces variegated seedlings when used as the pod parent. Its pollen will give variegated foliage if used on a flower that shows var-

iegated streaking on the outside of the pod (ovary). These streaked pods give all-green and all-white seedlings, as well as variegated. Pods that are solid green do not produce variegated seedlings; solid white pods produce only albino seedlings.

We have one variety from induced mutation: SPRING SURPRISE (Tony Huber R. 1998), with pinkish-lilac flowers, foliage which is cream, white, and variegated before bloom, then turning olive green. It came from cobalt-69 irradiated seed of *I. virginica* var. *shrevei* and a *virginica*-*versicolor* seedling.

With all the many thousands of iris seedlings that we grow today, the chances are greatly increased for the “accident” of variegated foliage to occur—we just need to keep watching for it. Don’t expect to find a full fledged white/green clump—variegation is likely to begin as a single side-shoot on an otherwise normal plant. White seedlings in a progeny can be a clue that the pod parent could throw variegated seedlings in the future.

Your editor would like to hear from anyone who has found variegated seedlings—there may be more out there than we know about!

Purple Based Foliage

by Ginny and Don Spoon, Virginia

When we received Terry’s inquiry asking if we would consider writing an article on purple based foliage (PBF) it seemed a nice coincidence since this past summer I had done an inventory of our garden, listing those with PBF. Also, Don had studied our seedlings for PBF. This PBF census was prompted by a note from Phil Edinger telling us of a possible mistake in our catalog where two historic, SAN FRANCISCO and SUSAN BLISS, were listed as having PBF and they shouldn’t have it. Sure enough, I checked and they did not have PBF. Phil said that “of the old tetraploid plicatas, only SACRAMENTO has purple bases.” I had garnered the information from various sources without checking it myself. Over the next several days I tried to list all of the PBF irises in our garden, including the beardless varieties. There were approximately 240 irises, or about 6%, with PBF of the 4,000 inventoried. Some TBs with the darkest PBF were DIME A DANCE, PHAETON, CONTINUITY, TO THE POINT, AROUND MIDNIGHT, OMINOUS STRANGER, ZEBRA BLUSH (reddish-violet), SONATA IN BLUE, and NIGHT GAME.

Only three out of around 400 SDBs had PBF: PLUM WINE, LOVE TOKEN, and CUTE OR WHAT. I found no PBF in our

MDBs. Out of 3,000 TBs surveyed, about 150 or 5% had PBF, and in most it was faint. In the TBs PBF occurred in all color ranges but somewhat more darkly pigmented in the purples, blues, and plicatas. The champion classification was the MTBs with 9%, 16 of 150 surveyed. Of the 240 historic bearded irises surveyed, 27 or 11% had PBF, with 20 TBs, 5 IBs, 1 MTB, and 1 Arilbred. Quite a few siberians and a few ensatas were purple based. The most striking of all the beardless varieties was the species cross, GERALD DARBY, with its wine-colored, red-purple based foliage.

Don and I are enamored with and grow variegated foliage irises as well. The iris plant is seen all year, while the flowers of most cultivars are enjoyed only for a few weeks, so why not enjoy the foliage year round? CANADIAN STREAKER (Chuck Chapman 1997 (photo, page 38), out of CUP RACE X LACED COTTON) and Allan Ensminger's seedling number 89-59 (photo, page 38) are two of the most striking variegated foliage varieties in our garden with creamy yellow and white streaks over the rich green leaves with a striking red-purple base. Unlike *I. pallida* ZEBRA, they both have attractive flowers. In last year's Loomis Memorial Trial Garden results, with no extra scoring for variegated foliage or PBF, CANADIAN STREAKER ranked 22nd out of 110 TBs. I will now turn the forum over to Don.

Thank you, Ginny. Purple based foliage (PBF) has long been known to be carried as a dominant trait and contributed by either pod or pollen parent. Its expression changes greatly throughout the year and in different climates and soil types. However, PBF is fairly uniformly expressed in each fan of a clump making it a valuable aid in cultivar identification. It would be useful to have PBF added to all new registrations of cultivars possessing PBF. Mike Lowe has hypothesized that PBF may carry some positive advantage to the cultivars and species that possess it, such as added vigor, disease or pest resistance. Hopefully, there will be controlled experiments to test this interesting hypothesis. PBF is present in wild iris species implying it was selected for its survival value. Species possessing PBF, such as *I. variegata*, are in the ancestry of modern bearded irises. Phil Edinger says, "Some *pallida* (e.g. PRINCESS BEATRICE) and their derivatives have it, but it always fades to totally green by bloom time or thereabouts."

A few hybridizers, such as Allan Ensminger and Brad Kasperek, have made crosses to select for and try to enhance PBF. Sterling Innerst, Ray Schreiner, Paul Black, Barry Blyth, and Keith Keppel have produced some of the darkest pigmented and most extensive PBF, yet unintentionally while selecting for other traits.

The PBF pigment is in the leaf's epidermal layer, that one can easily peel off and observe under the microscope. Individual cells have different shades of the same color, and some cells have none showing that the PBF gene was not activated in them. The study to extract and determine which pigments, such as Delphinidin and its derivatives, account for PBF would be a great year round, youth science project. The PBF pigment distribution can be like a smooth brushstroke, spatter painted, applied more on one side of the leaf, or concentrated more on the leaf edges and as veins above the vascular bundles.

This PBF pigment is sunfast. It is produced only at the base of the fan, decreasing in amount extending up the fan. PBF occurs at the base of the fan as well as about 1/8th inch below ground as a redder band before the fan turns all white. The color can approach deepest purple-black to more bluish purple to red-purple, that some call "red" based foliage. The PBF seems to be greatest when the plant is growing most actively in the spring and early fall when the roots and rhizomes are sending up nutrients like sugars. PBF appears least in the dry, dormant summer period. In winter it may appear redder.

Purple pigment color, similar in color to that in PBF, is progressively lost in indoor flowers of cut stalks. For example, COLOR WATCH flowers in water for two weeks indoors with no nutrients open as a medium brown colored plicata rather than a purplish maroon one. Anthocyanin pigments vary in color with the place on the pigment molecule that sugars and heavy metals attach to them. For example, acid soils make aluminum available to hydrangea anthocyanin so it chelates (attaches) to the pigment and changes its color to blue, being pink in alkaline soil where aluminum is insoluble. In variegated foliage cultivars with PBF, occasionally an increase becomes all white receiving sugars and other energy rich nutrients entirely from its parent rhizome. This white increase continues to grow and develop at its base lovely red-purple pigment that extends slightly below ground.

The violet, red-violet, and blue anthocyanin pigments are water soluble and are dissolved in the large central vacuole that can occupy 90% of the epidermal cell's volume. The cell sap in these vacuoles is separated from the cell's cytoplasm by a living membrane and can have many different influences, such as pH, on the pigment's color. For example, the light spectrum blue of 'Heavenly Blue' morning glories is a pigment change induced by the pH in its cell sap. As the flower closes, the pigment turns red-violet.

Below the leaf's epidermal layer are the green mesophyll cells where photosynthesis occurs in specialized plastids called chloroplasts. Tiny, colorless DNA containing proplastids in the embryo's cells develop into chloroplasts in the leaves and stems. Chloroplasts contain the lipid soluble accessory pigments, the carotenoids and xanthophylls, embedded in the lipid layers of their membranes in their minute round stacks of membrane sacs, called grana. These accessory pigments capture the photons hitting the leaves with energies in the blue and blue-green wavelengths of the visual spectrum (ROYGBIV) and shunt this captured light energy to the chlorophylls and photosynthetic systems that synthesize energy storing molecules such as sugars. Chlorophylls, absorbing strongest in the blue and red wavelengths, and the accessory pigments serve as the light antennas that power photosynthesis. (Abscised fall leaves turn brown when they die quickly and their molecules are oxidized. The more stable accessory pigments with their yellow and orange colors become visible when slow autumn cooling allows the chlorophylls in the leaves to gradually break down. When a leaf doesn't fall in a clear, cool autumn, sugars in the leaf can allow anthocyanin pigment development in the cell sap of the epidermis giving the red and purple colors.)

In the flowers the colorless proplastids develop into a different kind of plastid called chromoplasts. These chromoplasts in the epidermal cell's cytoplasm contain the yellow, pink, and orange carotenoids and yellow xanthophylls, but no green chlorophylls. It is the combination of water soluble anthocyanin pigments in the cell sap of the central vacuoles of epidermal cells and lipid soluble carotenoids and xanthophylls in the chromoplasts in their cytoplasm that give irises their range and pattern of colors we see. Anthocyanin pigments in PBF, by capturing energy from sunlight, could heat up the epidermal cells. This heat could be conducted to the mesophyll cells and vascular bundles under the epidermis. Maybe by heating up the fan bases, especially in early morning and late evening when the sun is low on the horizon, they could speed up transportation of nutrients and enhance photosynthesis and growth. PBF might shield the part of the fan closest to the cold radiation from the soil. However, these guesses would be difficult to test scientifically. To me, the distribution and function, if any, of PBF remains a mystery. Its beauty may be its only excuse for being. Its utility for helping in identification is a bonus.

Kenneth Kidd relates in *The World of Irises* that when the green based foliage (GBF) *luminata* MOONLIT SEAS was crossed on the PBF *glaciata* MATTERHORN the cross gave eight seedlings with and

eight without PBF, indicating MATTERHORN had the genotype Pb pb pb pb. Similarly, our PBF medium lavender blue LADY GLENNA (2000) (HONKY TONK BLUES X SISTER HELEN) times GBF CAPTAIN'S JOY gave ten seedlings with PBF and ten seedlings with GBF. We also got close to the predicted maximum ratio for tetraploid crosses of 3 PBF to 1 GBF when we selfed a cultivar (seedling 92-52) with PBF or crossed two with PBF (Seedling 92-52 X PIZZICATO) indicating both had genotypes Pb pb pb pb. We could not clearly distinguish pigment gradations indicating a dosage effect of PBF in the seedlings. The problem is that PBF increases as the seedling grows and produces new increases. Nevertheless, some must have had the genotype Pb Pb pb pb, and if selfed could yield some Pb Pb Pb Pb seedlings with a maximum dosage. When we crossed our PBF LADY OF LEONESS (2000) on GBF FEATURE ATTRACTION we got 7 PBF and 1 GBF indicating that LADY OF LEONESS has the genotype Pp Pb pb pb inherited from its PBF parent HONKY TONK BLUES that would also be Pb Pb pb pb. Crossing LADY OF LEONESS back to its pollen parent HONKY TONK BLUES, or selfing either, could produce some seedlings with Pb Pb Pb Pb and the possibility of a maximum four-fold dosage effect. Maybe such a genotype has yet to be obtained. The phenotype it would express might be a surprise.

When you study the parentage of the 150 TBs surveyed with PBF you can usually trace the PBF dominant gene back to one or both parents that possessed PBF, for example THORNBIRD from ART OF RAPHAEL, INSTRUCTOR from SPINNING WHEEL, SUNNY DISPOSITION from HARVEST OF MEMORIES, or NIGHT GAME and LOCAL COLOR from WITCH'S SABBATH X GALLANT ROGUE, both with PBF, but NIGHT GAME with darker PBF. Sometimes, as in BROADWAY, the PBF parent of PBF ISTANBUL, the pigment is so faint it could easily go unnoticed. This information about PBF can help to confirm that the pollen wasn't applied by an insect. PBF may have gotten spread around as much as it did, just by chance, because it occurred in certain great parents like PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE, SPINNING WHEEL and HONKY TONK BLUES, all borer resistant in our garden. We have other PBF cultivars that are not borer resistant.

There are cultivars such as ISTANBUL and GARDEN GRACE that have purple spathes and PBF. Many non PBF cultivars, such as KIND KAREN, have purple or lavender pigment on the edges of the spathes. A rhizome is a horizontal stem, and its grooves are short nodes

each producing two blades (leaves) of the fan in opposite directions. The stalk is an erect stem with elongate and short (where double or triple socketed) nodes each with two modified blades, the spathes, also paired as opposites, though different in size and shape. CLARENCE X MIND READER, neither with PBF, gave our PBF DAUGHTER OF STARS (2001) with CLARENCE's rebloom traits and MIND READER's purple spathes and distinct luminata pattern. Often PBF is extensive and dark in a seedling from a GBF crossed on a faintly expressed PBF parent. These and other findings from our crosses indicate that one or more other genes, or modifier genes, can influence the expression of this dominant gene for purple based foliage. There may be different cellular mechanisms controlled by other genes for turning on this PBF gene in the base of the fans, the whole spathe or only their edges, and the epidermis of the stem.

It would be striking to have iris cultivars with all their foliage like the leaves of a purple Norway maple, or even deeper purple or redder. To turn purple or red-purple the epidermis of the whole green fan, not just its base, may require a mutation to produce a recessive (p-gf = 's purple epidermis over all green foliage). If the recessive is already present (Gf Gf Gf p-gf), then it will require inbreeding, such as selfings or sibling crosses, to obtain expression of the genotype as (p-gf p-gf p-gf p-gf). Imagine the whole iris clump the red-violet color of GYPSY ROMANCE flowers. Then we might add holiday green flowers with holly berry red beards with white flounces. Irises offer us an amazing rainbow palette. The possibilities are beyond our imaginations. The fun has just begun!

Variegated Tasco/Duncan Seedling RR#1

by Rick Tasco & Roger Duncan

One of the still highly sought-after iris characteristics, besides a fire-engine red iris, is that of a broken color (variegated) flower on variegated foliage.

During the 1997 bloom season, we noticed that on one of our mother rhizomes of HUMORESQUE (Keppel '62), one of the increases had slight variegated foliage (photo: page 38). That rhizome had six increases, three on each side, and the middle increase on the left side was the variegated one! The other five increases were normal green foliage.

Later that bloom season, Ben Hager and Humoresque's hybridizer himself, Keith Keppel, visited our garden together. We excitedly showed them our "find" and both agreed they doubted seriously that the variega-

tion would be stable. We agreed that we'd single out that increase and grow it separately next season.

What made this "find" so noteworthy in our opinion was that none of the hybridizers who specialize in variegated foliage and/or variegated flowers claimed to have an iris that had both qualities. Since HUMORESQUE is a variegated flower iris, we thought this could turn out to be very significant.

We singled out that one variegated foliage rhizome and for the 1998 bloom season it produced seven increases and all showed spectacular stable variegation! Needless to say, we tried setting pods on all the flowers on that one maiden bloom stalk! By the way, that bloom stalk was also variegated! And we were successful in producing some pods. We also used the pollen in hybridizing on other iris. We tried to concentrate our crosses with plicatas as we've read that crossing variegated flowers with plics gives a higher percentage of broken color flowers.

This past bloom season, 1999, saw those seven rhizomes produce a grand total of 34 increases now. And we planted these seven rhizomes in various garden locations here on the property so as a test, they wouldn't all get the same soil conditions. Several went into our special cover-cropped solarized soil (see our 7/99 *Bulletin* article), a couple went into only cover-cropped soil, and a couple went into just "regular garden soil" where we grow most of our seedlings. This soil is neither solar sterilized nor cover-cropped.

When Keith Keppel visited the garden again this past April, he was very excited that of the 34 increases we both counted, only one increase was all green. So, the variegation seems to be very stable (33 of 34); at least it is when compared to some of the other variegated foliage iris we grow here, some of which often produce many all-green fans.

As the plants start to grow after transplanting, the variegation is very strong, probably one of the strongest variegated foliage iris we grow! That tends to mellow out just a bit during the season and by fall and transplanting time, the variegation is still very strong, just not as brightly colored as in the spring.

The blossoms on this sport very closely resemble HUMORESQUE in both color and form, except that on the falls, the streaking of blue is a little darker than on Humoresque.

The first crop of seedlings from RR#1 will bloom in April. In fact, some of the crosses with plic rebloomers have sent up a few stalks this past fall! Nothing exciting to report from those blooms yet.

We noted that when seeds from the RR#1 crosses germinated, there seemed to be quite a few albino seedlings, which of course promptly died. So far, not many variegated foliage seedlings have appeared, but there have been a few! Again, this is just the first crop of seedlings to bloom. We have nothing to report on variegated flowers until we see the bulk of the bloom in a few months. That should be very exciting!

One seedling we are watching very closely is from a cross between RR#1 and TENNISON RIDGE. The foliage on that iris isn't variegated, but at the base of the leaves where one normally sees purple-based foliage, this foliage is starkly angled green-and-white on each leaf as if someone cut it with a knife and butted green foliage with white foliage. And no other variegation appears anywhere on the leaves. As with PBF, this extends up the leaf just a few inches. Maybe we can create a new class, WBF—white-based foliage!

Testing will continue as will hybridizing, and if all goes as well as it has so far, we will most likely introduce this sport as a breeder's iris in 2001 or 2002. The flower form will need work as it is of course, from a classic 1962 model (sorry Keith). But the variegated foliage portion of the equation, at least so far, appears very stable.

The Garden Accent

by Brad Kasperek

Imagine your iris beds accented with vigorous variegated foliage (VF) irises with modern flowers in a variety of colors. Variegated foliage plants are highly prized by today's gardeners and are likely to maintain their appeal because they are both distinctive and unique. Modern irises with stable variegated foliage would also be popular with the gardening public. Is this goal obtainable? Yes! When will it happen? I don't know.

To arrive at this goal we need a VF breeding line, but to get a line, a modern iris with stable, reproducible variegation still needs to be created. Let me define my terms. Stable variegation occurs when the pattern of variegation (e.g. striping, marbling, or ???) is predictable from leaf-to-leaf and increase-to-increase. Reproducibility is demonstrated by the ability of the parent rhizome to pass along its pattern of variegation to a significant percentage of its seedlings. Modern irises refer to those whose flowers have modern form. The term variegation can apply to any foliage with two or more colors or shades of colors, but this article only addresses variegation produced by the irregular (defective) production of chlorophyll. This characteristic can either be passed to a seedling through the pod parent, or, on rare occasions, it occurs spontaneously

in a cultivar or seedling via a genetic mutation. My breeding program owes its start to seedlings and hybridizing information acquired from Allan Ensminger. I doubt if Allan was the first hybridizer to develop a VF breeding program, but thanks to his promotion and generous distribution of seedlings, hybridizing interest in this novelty is growing. As the number of hybridizers increases, the probability of discovering the “Progenitor” plant for this breeding line also increases.

If you’re interested in doing some VF crosses, the single most important fact you need to remember is that only the pod parent can pass the VF characteristic to its seedlings! Even though there is increased interest in hybridizing, the selection of VF cultivars remains very limited and so is their availability. The most available are species irises like *I. Pallida* Aurea, also named *I. Pallida* Variegata and commonly called by its commercial name, Zebra. This diploid species iris has a stable pattern with a wide cream colored stripe on the inner edge of its leaf. Both are available from a variety of sources including several commercial iris gardens, some local nurseries, and a few commercial nursery catalogs.

Another group is introduced tall and border bearded modern cultivars. Most are offered for sale by only a few commercial iris gardens and even they have limited supplies. They don’t make good commercial irises because their variegation isn’t stable. Often, less than 50% of the increase have the necessary ratio of variegation to green foliage to produce the aesthetics and vigor required of a saleable VF cultivar. I’m sure this list isn’t complete, but the earliest cultivar I know of is CREAM COCKATOO, TB, (A.D. Keith ’56) (offered for sale in ’56, but not registered until ’95). The next is STRIPED BRITCHES, BB (R. Short ’81) that has primarily striped variegation with good vigor and stability. I haven’t tested it yet as a parent. In 1984, Dr. John Weiler introduced the yellow-flowered TB, STRIPED JADE. Its variegation is primarily marbled and the plant has good vigor, fair stability, and it does pass VF to its seedlings. BOLD STRIPES, TB (J. Weiler ’90) has very good stability, but it’s also very challenging to grow and hard to find. The yellow flowers on BOLD STRIPES and STRIPED JADE have a late 60s form.

Here at Zebra Gardens, we’ve introduced four TB VF cultivars to date. The first was ZEBRA BLUSH (’95) with marbled variegation, purple-based foliage, and a light yellow/rose bi-color flower that has an early 60s form. The tri-colored foliage is attractive, but it has only fair vigor and variegation stability. It does produce VF seedlings. Our second was ZEBRA HALO (’97) with a very-modern, laced flower, good vigor, but only fair stability in its variegation. No crosses have taken on this

iris through this year. Next is ZEBRA NIGHT ('98) with its significant improvement in variegation. In addition to the colorfully contrasting dark-purple flower with a late 60s form, it has good vigor and stability. No seedlings have yet been raised from this iris. Last, there is TRICERABOTTOMZ ('99) which is aptly named because of its tri-colored foliage of medium green, yellow-green, and white. Stability is very good since at least two colors, and often all three, appear on almost every increase. The plant has good vigor, but, although the modern flower has great substance, its buff color is unremarkable. Again, I haven't yet tested it as VF parent.

A second group of irises with a different pattern of variegation is those produced from crosses of tall bearded and arilbreds (AB). These usually have gray-green foliage with broken, narrow vertical silver-white striping. I am only aware of three of these. First, there is PINK MARBLE, IB (Austin '56) with its light red-purple flower and good vigor. Second, is STRIPED MOONBEAM, AB (D. Shepard '90) with a yellow flower and also good vigor. The flower is fairly modern for an AB and the plant will sometimes rebloom here in the fall. The third is a Don Nebeker seedling we are growing for introduction in a year or two. It's very interesting because in addition to the variegated foliage its blended lavender and light red-purple flower shows some broken-colors.

Finally, here are a few observations from my experience hybridizing VF irises. Patience is not only a virtue, but also a necessity. Out of each cross I may get 5% variegated seedlings if I'm lucky. This is only an average and the actual number will vary greatly from cross-to-cross and year-to-year. When the germinating seedlings first appear there are usually many that are all white because they lack chlorophyll. These will soon die. The remaining seedlings are either all green or show variegation at this early stage. Those that show variegation in the first few leaves are only 0% – 2%, and to try to obtain the full 5% average you need to grow all the green seedlings too. As they mature, a few of the green seedlings will produce variegated foliage. When I first divide the variegated seedling clumps, I only save the fans with variegation because the all-green fans rarely produce any variegation in their increase. (Unfortunately, on occasion that even happens with the variegated fans!) And last, it is a lot easier to develop VF irises with modern flowers than stable variegation. Good luck to all the hybridizers who have taken, or will take up, the challenging task of developing a line of irises with stable variegation. FAME, GLORY, and maybe a few bucks, await the hybridizer who succeeds!

Variegated Surprise

by John Weiler, California

In my attempts to improve bearded irises, much thought and planning went into producing better vigor, better branching with high bud count, a much extended bloom season and/or rebloom, different colors, as well as the usual goals of flower improvement such as petal breadth, ruffling, color saturation and purity, and substance. However, never did I deliberately plan to produce a plant with variegated foliage. Nevertheless, two seedling clones produced variegated foliage spontaneously, and were registered and introduced as STRIPED JADE ('83) and BOLD STRIPES ('92).

A quick review of parentage reveals no close relationship between them, nor is there any indication of variegated foliage in any of the recent ancestors. The parentage of each clone is as follows: STRIPED JADE = (White King x Tinsel Town); BOLD STRIPES = (75-40-2A [a white seedling from Goodnight Irene (blue) x Blue Luster (blue)] x Rhumba Ruffle). Unfortunately there was no concerted effort on my part to exploit this foliage variegation for more advanced generations.

A few crosses were made, hoping to get some idea of the hereditary potential for the variegation trait. However, some crosses failed to produce seeds, others produced a small amount of seeds. Those plants arising from the use of pollen of either clone, if and when pollen was produced, yielded all green foliage plants. Using either plant as pod parent produced mainly green leafed plants, but an occasional albino seedling appeared. Such albinos, lacking chlorophyll for food production, almost always die as soon as the food supply stored in the seed is exhausted. No plants with variegated foliage appeared. In retrospect, it is regrettable that many more crosses were not attempted since so few irises are available with variegated foliage.

There are problems for the gardener in dealing with variegated irises. Although the diploid clones of *I. pallida* 'Argentea' (photo: page 40), green and white foliage, and 'Aureo-variegata' (zebra), green and yellow striping, are stable, the few tall bearded clones of modern tetraploids with variegated foliage are not stable. This means that as an increase is produced the variegation may or may not appear. Those fans with variegation may also have the striping on the front, back, or both sides of the fan, and an occasional albino fan may appear. The albino fans survive only while using nutrients from green portions of their neighbors. An occasional all green fan may also arise. The green fan produces food more abundantly than variegated fans; this results in more rapid growth and eventual crowding out of the variegated portion of the plant. This

means that, if variegation is to be preserved, the all green fans must be removed whenever they appear. This should not discourage the gardener interested in variegated foliage plants since many other trees, shrubs, and herbaceous perennials available for gardens in variegated form also show instability of variegation and must be groomed annually to remove non-variegated branches or portions of the plant.

I have a theory about how my variegated plants may have occurred. While it was a custom to produce 3,000 to 5,000 seedlings annually, the work to maintain such plantings manually was great enough that it was deemed necessary to use chemical help. When weeds began to get out of hand, either post-emergent or pre-emergent weed killers, or both used together, were tried. Generally a mixture of the pre-emergent herbicide Surflan and the post-emergent Roundup were sprayed on all margins of the field and in the broad paths between seedling rows. Every attempt was made to avoid hitting irises with any of the spray. Usually the spray was allowed to remain on the weeds for 48 hours so that Roundup could be absorbed, then the field was irrigated with sprinklers to wash Surflan into the soil, to prevent further weed germination.

In areas thoroughly sprayed with herbicide mixture, nearly all living plants died. At the fringes and occasionally among the irises where small amounts of the spray apparently drifted, weedy annual grasses would sometimes show variegated striping of the leaves, the plants grew slowly, and some would eventually recover and start producing all green foliage. No broad leafed weeds, dicots, showed any such variegation. It was under these conditions following use of the herbicide mixture that STRIPED JADE and BOLD STRIPES were discovered, only two from thousands of seedlings over years of work. In cases where either herbicide was used alone, no evidence of variegation ever occurred in either the grassy weeds or the irises. I suspect that the herbicide mixture reaching irises by drift in very small amounts may have produced the variegation in these two clones.

The Mystery of Variegated Foliage


by Terry Aitken, Washington State

Over the past twenty-five years, I have had more than a passing fancy for almost any plant that expressed spontaneous color variation, whether in flower or foliage. How can Mother Nature produce a plant in which every leaf has a different pattern? I have surreptitiously collected plants of any kind—from Bougainvillea to Jades, Hibiscus, Amaryllis—you name it. Certainly, any variegated iris that I can lay my hands on has ended up out in our five acres somewhere!

My first happy accident in the seedling patch occurred with SDB cross #83MIIB where I stumbled upon a seedling that showed streaks in its foliage. This clump was broken up and lined out for further observation. Some portions of the plant reverted to solid green, while others continued to express the variegation. When they finally bloomed, the solid green divisions bloomed as full fledged SDBs at about 12 inches while the variegated divisions bloomed short at about 5 – 6 inches—an MDB! (see photo, page 38) As time and diversions would have it, the plant dwindled and was lost.

Some five years ago, in a moment of indulgence, I was doing some “spot weeding” in the Louisiana field. Going down the aisle next to CRISP LIME, I came across a tiny sprig of a Louisiana seedling, 95-LA-I, that showed streaks in its foliage (photo: page 39). The plant was quickly rescued and moved to more fertile ground. Two years later it bloomed. It was off white and probably a seedling from CRISP LIME. Since I had purchased the plant from Perry Dyer, I inquired if I might have inadvertently acquired an alien in the shipping container. Perry assured me that he was not aware of any such variegated plant. The mystery was building as to why a variegated Louisiana iris would show up in my little 50 x 100 foot bed of Louisianas. About that same time, while weeding in the border bearded bed, I came across a beautiful variegated sow thistle! Its scalloped leaves, punctuated by thorns, were all outlined in white in a marvelously delicate way. I weeded around it, and it remained as a guest in the BB field for the rest of the summer. I think there were some variegated clover leaves around as well, but they did not capture my fancy and were summarily dispatched.

The big question is: why would these variegations occur in my yard spontaneously? My best theory for the moment is that I regularly spray *Roundup* in the field rows for weed control and that the timing of the application may have influenced seeds, in the germination stage, to “sport”. In reviewing John Weiler’s comments (see previous pages), I would acknowledge the possibility that *Surflan* could be in the vicinity when the Louisiana and the Sow Thistle showed up. However, the MDB seedling 83MII predated *Surflan* in my garden.

“Sporting” is a fairly common occurrence for orchid growers to observe since the seeds or meristem sprouts are sterilized with bleach or hydrogen peroxide before entering the sterile environment of flasks and agar. Diploid orchid plants frequently “sport” or convert to tetraploids. I have also noted variegated “sports” in clone populations at several orchid nurseries. 

Design Corner

Exhibition Tables

by Carolyn Hawkins, Georgia

TABLE DESIGNS ARE NOT JUST FOR FLOWER SHOWS—WE USE THEM in our homes every time we entertain. Read the following flower show rules for an exhibitional table with a design unit. See if you don't agree that these are easy to do, add to a flower show and give a lot of good ideas on how to set a place at a table. This kind of combination of plates, beverage containers, napkins and/or serving pieces are often seen in the china department of a retail store. We just add fresh plant material.

According to the National Council of State Garden Club's *Handbook for Flower Shows*, 1997 Edition, the exhibitional tables are described as follows:

1. They are artistically arranged to provide creative coordination of all components (dishes, napkins, etc.) without consideration of functional placements.
2. The dishes/napkins chosen should be chosen in order to interpret class title (pottery with gingham for a picnic, lace with china for a formal dinner, etc.)
3. There must be some indication of dining and staging can be in many different ways: a niche, using a frame, on an individual table, on a tray, on a wall hung panel. Innovative staging is encouraged.

The exhibitional table is one of several kinds of table designs. Others include a buffet table, a dinning room table or even a picnic table for a specific number of people. Again one is encouraged to come up with an original idea that is creative and interesting.

The following group of designs shows the different interpretation of the overall theme "Our Own" and depicts the class title of "Everette Lineberger." (Everette is a hybridizer, former RVP for Region 5 and former AIS Director.) Exhibition tables are divided further into Type 1 (has a design unit—flower arrangement) and Type 2 where plant materials are not restricted to a container but can be placed where needed to carry rhythm throughout to show coordination of all appointments.

The table designs shown on page 41 are for exhibitional tables type one that requires a table setting and a flower design. They are staged on

a 36" diameter round base and have a 23" ring attached vertically incorporated into the exhibit.


Design No. 1 was done by Lola Morris and incorporates formal china with a delicate crystal vase mounted in a black wrought iron holder. The ring goes through the design and continues the circular form of the china. The china has been propped up with plate stands.

Design No. 2 has ivy twined on the ring. The design unit has been placed just behind the ring and in front of the ring is a place setting of china and a goblet. The gold napkin repeats the gold iris in the design for a unifying effect. This design was done by Nancy Humphreys.

Shirley Paquet organized components in Design No. 3. She used a gold ring and placed her design unit in a woven container and the colorful panel in front of the ring. One pottery plate, a goblet and napkin complete her table components.

Note that the items selected for use in each design by the exhibitors are consistent in aesthetic qualities. For example fine china with crystal, and pottery with a woven basket.

These designs were done by National Council of State Garden Club members in the Columbia, SC area. This show was sponsored by the Iris Garden Club of the American Iris Society and the Garden Club Council of Greater Columbia in April 1999.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact: Carolyn Hawkins, National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc. Plant Society Liaison, 7329 Kendel Court, Jonesboro, GA 30236. 



Visit the AIS Website

www.irises.org

Flight Lines

International & Siberian Robins

by Barbara Figge, New Mexico

Lucy Burton, S. Hamilton, MA: The only virginica X versicolor we grow is GERALD DARBY—the stems are like virginica and swoop around mixing with the Siberian plants in the bed. I'm afraid that versicolor is the source of the iris borer. When the big rhizomes of the bearded irises arrived they thought “yum yum” and moved in, to everyone's disgust...

We grow our SDB seed outside in the small flats in which annuals come from garden centers. We use potting soil. They need cold to germinate... After Christmas we put the cut tree boughs on top to protect plants which have early germination. All the flats are covered with hardware cloth to keep animals out...we do have chipmunks...

We have never had any trouble with soft rot in the diploid MTBs. It occasionally occurs in the IBs and SDBs... The appearance of rot sometimes depends on the plant parentage. If a TB parent rots, it may show up in the median children. Some plants can be a surprise. I was nervous about planting [the] IB LEMON POP, because the pod parent, LEMON CUSTARD, was very rot prone for us. However, the pollen parent, SDB Highborn Kinsman, is a tough little plant. LEMON POP not only recovered from rot induced by [an] iris borer, after a “clorox wash” and drying out, but increased very well.

Libby Cross, Covington, VA: We had a fabulous bloom season here [in 1998]. I suppose we can thank El nino for the mild winter and pleasant spring... We did have a two week period of bloom...I had bloom on iris that haven't bloomed in years. Two cultivars I thought were lost, BUTTERSCOTCH KISS and PINNACLE, miraculously reappeared. much to my delight...

Of course, as expected, the Siberians did not put on much of a display. I even lost two of them...CAMBRIDGE and FAIRLY FINGERS. ...The TB IMMORTALITY took several years to get around to blooming after I first planted it, but it certainly makes up for slow poke tendencies now... Feeding in my area is a bit of hit-or-miss operation these days. I used to use superphosphate, in powdered form, putting a

handful of it around each clump of iris, during the winter (February around these parts). The powdered superphos. is no longer available, but we must buy Triple Superphosphate, in pellet form. Instead of being 0-80-0, it is now only 0-46-0. It costs five times as much, and takes forever to do any good. The pellets just lay on the ground, without dissolving for months. When I realized that, I took to lifting all the iris in each bed every other year, and tilling the superphos. into the soil, along with alfalfa pellets, and when needed, vermiculite, to help lighten the soil. When I reset the plants I mixed a bit of bonemeal into the soil below the rhizome, and I've even tried watering with liquid fertilizers from time to time. But to be perfectly honest, my irises do their best when I leave them alone and don't feed them. Too rich a soil seems to cause rot, and I don't know that it doesn't make the iris taste better to the borers. At any rate, my "let-'em-alone" policy seems to be working, since rot is rare and borers non-existent-so far. Maybe the iris are just now beginning to feast on the superphos., that has finally dissolved, and I'm darn sure the systemic insecticide I use is keeping the borers at bay. However, you might want to try some of the above.

Dr. H. J. Manning, NZ: ...our iris season started 2 months ago with the Iris Reticulata. I had bought a new batch of bulbs but was really disappointed that the various cultivars were all very similar—GORDON, AIDA, JOYCE, CAMBRIDGE BLUE, ROYAL BLUE and HARMONY seemed all very similar. They did not all flower at the same time and that made exact comparisons not very easy. It seemed to me that the differences lay in different flower times—early, late in the season, and in length of stem and presence and absence of leaves at flowering times.

Margaret Criddle, UK: I am at the moment still altering my garden once again as the large volume of rain we have had has simply rotted most of my Tall Bearded irises. I have managed to salvage a fair amount, I had several historic irises, among them ALCAZA, WHITEHALL, PALLIDA and MARSHALL NEY. I have given them to my daughter in Norfolk...and they are happy again and doing well. I am replacing them with a large quantity of Pacific Coast Iris, some of which were Joe Ghio seeds... Goef Wilson has just given me a box of his older arils, so I am trying them. He works with Luella Danielson.

Tohru Araki, JA: I have investigated the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) generated by the residential section, excluding transportation, e.g. cars, tram cars, etc. I counted only the carbon portion and found that

Indian people generate 51 pounds per person per annum, Japanese 770 pounds, and USA 2384 pounds... I think we need to reconsider our life style from the energy saving and global warming point of view for our following generations... This year I had only few deformed T₁₃ flowers—much better than last year. A friend of mine had a perfect six-petal (6 standards and 6 falls) CHRISTMAS. If I could hybridize it to some other cultivar or the flower itself and get seedlings, can I always get double-flowered rhizome? If it is possible, how nice it would be.

Lucy Burton, S. Hamilton, MA: The pumilas started to bloom on April 13 [’98] which is over two weeks earlier than their usual performance... The pumilas were the next generation from the originals from the Caucasus. The purple shades varied from almost black to medium purple to lavender. There were also two yellow flowers, one in each cross. Since the plants were from bee pods, we don’t know if the Caucasian batch crossed with each other or the pollen came from the Balkan pumilas. The falls on those can flare, while the ones from the Caucasus have tucked falls.

The bulk of our irises are medians. It was difficult to see the newer SDBs as well as new seedlings since it rained the first eleven days of May. Two new SDBs were unusual—JUST A CROC (Kasperek ’97), a blue-green blend and EL TORITO (B. Jones ’97) a bright, clear orange with flaming orange beards.

I crossed BBs with abandon this year and as a result had more seeds than I could plant... The “star” of the BB seedlings was a plicata with horns. It also had nice form and seven buds. It was surrounded by a sibling which was choking it, but it started to grow after being moved...


My favorite TB [from the Denver Convention] was LEMON CHESS (Moore’s ’96). Other outstanding TBs were SUDDEN IMPACT (Tasco ’97), violet blue with excellent branching, CAMP FIRE (Shockey ’97) blue violet with red beards, TANZANIAN TANGERINE (Kasperek ’95) peach speckled raspberry, and GOOD VIBRATIONS (Schreiner’s ’97) orange with a white zone on the falls. The orange was not fading in the sun and growth was excellent... PRINCESS CAROLINE DE MONACO (Cayeux) was impressive. It is ruffled light blue.

Tanya Braunmiller, Ferndale, WA: Siberians in my present garden include the old standards CAESAR’S BROTHER and WHITE SWIRL and the following – my goal a wide spectrum of color. I [include] their growth status...

SHAKER'S PRAYER and FORREST MCCORD showing moderate growth; PINK HAZE, JAYBIRD and INDY showing vigorous growth; DANCE BALLERINA DANCE, ISABELLE and FLIGHT OF BUTTERFLIES showing some growth; and JAMAICAN VELVET, SIBERICA ALBA NANA and SHIRLEY POPE showing no growth.

Brian Wendel, Ossian, IN: I had success starting the Siberian Iris seed these past few months. I let the seeds soak in a 1:5 ratio of bleach to boiled water (cooled) for 2 – 4 hours and then rinsed well. The seed is kept in water in covered baby food jars and changed daily for 7 days. I then planted the seed in a seed germinating mix in pots in the basement and I could see that some of the seeds had germinated even before planting... I was very pleased to have 2 sets of tetraploid crosses germinate (High Standards X Ewen) (4) and (Ewen X Coronation Anthem) (3). Also diploid crosses yielded 10 seedlings of (Mabel Coday X Ruffled Velvet) and 7 of (Aqua Whispers X Mabel Coday).

Rita Gormley, Cedar Hill, MO: Tom and I ... grow anything and everything we can get our hands and shovel on... Siberians are new to us, with only old CAESAR'S BROTHER a big clump. Last year we bought a few, and have four Sib guests (CHEERY LYNN, LAVENDER STIPPLES, PURPLE SAND and AQUA WHISPERS), two of Louise's (Bellagamba) new ones (RILL and PATIO ROSE), and a few others—total 15. Am just getting the hang of where to put them in our yard. They seem to do well in the rose beds...

One of the reasons for joining the Robin is to gather much more info on the feed and care of the Sib. Of all the iris, I do enjoy them and the MTBs best. 



Favorite Siberian Irises

For 1999

The following irises were the top ten favorite Siberians for 1999, as published in *The Siberian Iris Bulletin*, Fall, 1999

1997	1999	Votes	Variety	Hybridizer & Year
2	1	33	Roaring Jelly	Schafer/Sacks '92
1	2	30	Jewelled Crown	Hollingworth '87
8	3	28	Lake Keuka	Borglum '94
3	4	27	Coronation Anthem	Hollingworth '90
6	5	26	Over in Gloryland	Hollingworth '93
7	5	26	Strawberry Fair	Hollingworth '94
8	6	21	Sultan's Ruby	Hollingworth '88
4	7	20	Shaker's Prayer	Warner '90
8	8	17	Reprise	Warburton '87
12	9	16	Mabel Coday	Helsley '85
8	9	16	Pink Haze	McGarvey '80
7	9	16	Springs Brook	Warburton '88
13	10	15	Careless Sally	Schafer/Sacks '96
14	10	15	Mesa Pearl	Bauer/Coble '94
new	10	15	Steve Varner	Briscoe '78

Favorite Japanese Iris

For 1999

The following were the favorite Japanese irises for 1999, as reported in *The Review of the Society for Japanese Irises*, Volume 36, Number 2, Fall 1999

- 1 Japanese Pinwheel, 17 votes
- 2 Cascade Crest & Sing the Blues, 13 votes
- 3 Frilled Enchantment, Koshui-No-Asa and Lion King, 9 votes
- 4 Alpine Majesty & Iapetus, 8 votes
- 5 Center of Attention, Electric Rays, Frosted Pyramid, Jocasta, 6 votes
- 6 Chidori, Diomedes, Izu-no-Umi, Picotee Princess, Rose Adagio, Rose World, Rosewater, Tropical Storm, 5 votes
- 7 Caprician Butterfly, Crystal Halo, Electric Glow, Joy Peters, Kalamazoo, Niagara Power, Oriental Eyes, Pinkerton, Reign of Glory, Royal Game, Southern Son, Tideline, 4 votes

There were 24 varieties that received 3 votes each, and 51 varieties receiving 2 votes each.



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for 2000

reported by Ron Mullin, Oklahoma

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 AM Suzanne Parry
 G Darlene Pinegar
 AM Cathy Hagan Reed
 G Lois W. Reeder
 A Leon Robertson**
 AM Mrs. Merlin Tams

AM DeRay Taylor
 AM Keith H. Wagstaff
 G Jeffrey L. Walters
 A L. Val Wilson

Region 13

G Ellen Abrego
 G Thomas Abrego
 RM Patricia Adams
 AM Barbara Aitken
 AM Terry Aitken
 G Elaine Bessette
 AM Paul W. Black
 G Carole Breedlove
 AM Dr. Alan D. Brooks
 G Caroline Burke
 G Rita E. Butler
 RM Eunice Jean Cass
 G Don Clark
 G Deborah A. Cole
 RM Merle Daling
 RM B. Leroy Davidson
 AM Mrs. Joe Del Judge
 AM Joanne Mentz Derr
 RM F. Duncan Eader
 G Arnold W. Ferguson
 A Bruce Filardi
 G Lynn Finkel
 G Barbara Flynn
 RM Frank J. Foster
 G Debra Gillespie
 G Mildred Grow
 G Doris K. Hale
 G Eldon J. Hale
 AM Paul Harms
 G Chad Harris
 G Fran Hawk
 G Tom Johnson
 E Bennett C. Jones
 E Keith Keppel
 G Carla Lankow
 AM George F. Lankow
 RM Evelyn R. Lemire
 G John W. Ludi**
 G Keith McNames
 G Clyde Mead
 G Johnnie Lee Mead
 RM Duane E. Meek
 RM Joyce Meek
 RM Roger R. Nelson
 AM Frank H. Nickell
 RM Warren E. Noyes

RM Donald L. Peterson
 RM Fern E. Pilley
 A Tracy Plotner
 G William E. Plotner
 E Lorena E. Reid
 AM Gerald L. Richardson
 AM Jayne Ritchie
 AM David Schreiner
 AM Ray Schreiner
 E Robert Schreiner
 AM Doris E. Shinn
 AM David Silverberg
 RM Mrs. S. M. Sisley
 G Marky D. Smith
 RM Chet W. Tompkins
 RM Mrs. Lewis Trout
 AM Julius Wadekamper
 E Jean G. Witt

Region 14

A Helen Blivens
 AM Mrs. Carl H. Boswell
 AM Carl H. Boswell
 G Anna Cadd
 G David Cadd
 AM Mrs. Jack H. Cochran
 AM Mrs. Mark Condo
 AM Glenn F. Corlew
 RM Mrs. John Coscarelly
 G Christine Dickinson
 E Sidney P. DuBose
 G Abe Feuerstein
 E Joseph J. Ghio
 RM Alleah B. Haley
 RM Gigi Hall
 A Linda Harding
 RM Marilyn R. Harlow
 RM Merry Haveman
 AM Evelyn Hayes
 RM Marilyn Holloway
 AM Michael O. Howard
 AM Berkeley Hunt
 G Barry Ivens
 G J. Nelson Jones
 A John I. Jones
 G Frederick J. Kerr
 AM Virginia Keyser
 G Marcy Lauer
 G Richard Lauer
 G Kitty Loberg**
 RM Maryann Manning
 RM William R. Maryott

G Ed Matheny, III
 AM Hal Mattos
 G Joanne McGrew
 AM Mrs. William Messick
 AM Jean Near
 G Gordon Nicholson
 G Lorraine Nicholson
 AM Mrs. R. Nelson Nicholson
 G Mrs. John D. O'Brien
 RM Capt. M. C. Osborne
 G Claudia Owen
 G William T. Owen
 AM Fred C. Parvin
 G Jean Paul
 G Joyce Ragle
 AM Lucile Ray
 AM Alan D. Robbins
 G George H. Sutton
 G Margaret Sutton
 AM Richard A. Tasco
 RM Mrs. Sven I. Thoolen
 G Shirley Trio
 G Hiromi Uyeda
 A Dorlene Waite
 G F. Lee Wald
 G Howard Wald
 AM Mrs. W. G. Waters
 AM Dr. John Weiler
 G Barbara Whitely
 G James Whitely
 AM Bryce Williamson
 RM Vernon Wood
 G Sharon Wylie

Region 15

G Gail Barnhill**
 E Mrs. William E. Barr
 G Irene Benton
 AM Bob Brooks
 G Peggy Carpenter
 RM Thelma H. Carrington
 G Hazel E. Carson
 RM Janice Chesnik
 RM Mrs. Ralph Conrad
 RM Ralph Conrad
 G LaDona Cypret
 G Olen Joe Daugherty
 RM Mrs. Donald Dopke
 A Barbara Evans
 G Eileen Fiumara
 RM Mrs. Harry B. Frey
 G Derry Gerald

G Jim Giles
 G Georgia I. Gudykunst
 AM Mrs. Herbert C. Holk
 AM Dr. Herbert C. Holk
 AM Debbie Humphreys
 AM James H. Jones
 G Ardi Kary
 G Marjorie Larson
 RM Eleanor McCown
 G Lynn McIlwain
 G Mrs. David Mogil
 AM Dr. Edward Murray
 G Joella R. Olson
 E Mrs. Edward Owen
 A Jane Parks
 G Jeanne C. Plank
 G James Puckett
 G John H. Reinschmidt
 G Bill Rinehart
 A Steve Rocha
 A Sharlyn Rocha
 G Ollie Rust
 G D. L. Shepard
 AM Mrs. D. L. Shepard
 G Gerald Snyder
 RM Robert O. Sorenson
 G Mary Ann Spurlock
 G Hilward Stenson
 RM Kay Tearrington
 G Jane Troutman
 E Marion R. Walker
 G Jack Weber
 AM Warren Wiekhorst
 G Verona Wiekhorst
 G John Wight

Region 16

G Catherine Boyko**
 G Chuck Chapman
 G Harold R. Crawford
 G Raymond A. Ives
 AM Verna Laurin
 G Maureen Mark
 G Daniel P. McMillen
 G Gloria McMillen
 G Ken Viner

Region 17

G E. A. Addington
 G Robert W. Alexander
 G Alene Arnold
 G Dr. L. M. Begley

G Dana Brown
 G Vernon Brown
 RM Mrs. Lawrence Burt
 E Marie Caillet
 G J. Farron Campbell
 G Edna Carrington
 RM Dr. Jesse W. Collier
 E Mrs. Walter Colquitt
 AM Billie G. Corbell
 AM Jim D. Coward
 AM Luella Danielson
 RM Mrs. Dee Davis
 RM Mrs. Doyle Gray
 AM Gordon Green
 AM Hazel M. Haik
 G Nona Hoecker
 AM Mrs. Charles A. Howard
 G Mary L. Huggins
 RM Mrs. J. H. Jamieson
 G Jim Keefe
 AM Mrs. Vernon H. Keese
 RM Mrs. Harley L. King
 G Helen Kinnamon
 G John Kinnamon
 G David Lamb
 G Peggy Lamb
 RM W. D. Lee
 G Bonnie Nichols**
 AM Hooker Nichols
 RM William K. Patton
 G John Phillips
 G Mrs. John Phillips
 RM Mrs. Dwane Quinn
 RM Sam Reece
 E Mrs. C. C. Rockwell, Jr.
 G Patsy L. Rosen
 G Charlene Seifert
 G Keith Smith
 RM Frank L. Stephens
 G Debra Strauss
 G Ellen Sullivan
 RM Mrs. A. M. Tallmon
 G Mary Wilber
 G Diana Winship
 RM Mrs. Leon C. Wolford

Region 18

G Mrs. L. E. Anderson
 G Patricia Ardisonne
 G Jan Bates
 AM Mrs. August Bellagamba
 RM Clifford W. Benson

RM Mrs. Roy Bohrer
 AM Harry J. Boyd
 AM Mrs. Harry J. Boyd
 G Lee Charlton
 G Paula Charlton
 RM Mrs. James Lee Chism
 G Jon Marc Cliburn
 G Donald Delmez
 RM Dolores Denney
 AM Mrs. Ralph H. Dierkes
 AM Geneva Dies
 G Barbara Fouts
 G Kevin Gormley
 A Rita Gormley
 RM Norman Gossling
 G Mike Hargrove
 G Jim Hedgecock
 AM Calvin H. Helsley
 G Nyla Hughes
 G Dan Isbell
 AM Vincent Italian
 G Mitch Jameson
 RM Rev. Robert R. Jeffries
 G Audrey Judy
 G Dan Judy
 G Ray Keisling
 G Judy Keisling
 G Joan Kellar
 RM Mrs. Edwin W. Knight
 G Betty Langston-Macon
 G Doris Loveland
 G James Loveland
 AM Mrs. Robert Mark
 AM Mrs. M. J. McHugh
 G Kevin J. Morley
 AM James W. Morris**
 AM Mrs. James W. Morris
 G James Murrain
 A Carolyn Needham
 G Barbara Nicodemus
 E O. D. Niswonger
 RM Katherine Perry
 G Robert Pries
 G Riley Probst
 RM James Rasmussen
 AM Helen E. Reynolds
 AM Mrs. Robert H. Robinson
 RM Elvan E. Roderick
 RM Mrs. Elvan E. Roderick
 G Barbara Schuette
 G Mrs. Von Smith
 G Stephen Stevens

G Mrs. Stephen Stevens
 AM Eric Tankesley-Clarke
 G Robert Tankesley-Clarke
 A Mike Theissen
 G Dennis Van Landuyt
 AM Annette J. Vincent
 G Dr. James W. Waddick
 G C. L. Walz
 RM George W. Warner, Jr.
 A Adrian Wills
 A Naida Wills
 A James Winzer
 G Annabelle Wiseman
 G Mary Wyss

Region 19

RM Elizabeth Aulicky
 AM Raymond J. Blicharz
 G Chun Fan
 G Erin Marie Griner
 G Joseph J. Griner
 G Margaret Griner
 G Martha Ann Griner
 G James P. Holmes
 RM Dr. Norman H. Noe
 AM C. B. Reeves, Jr.
 AM Mrs. C. B. Reeves, Jr.
 G Raymond J. Rogers**
 AM Nancy Szmuriga
 E Elizabeth A. Wood

Region 20

A Martha Artzberger
 G Lowell Baumunk III
 G Glenna Chapman
 AM Duane W. Daily
 G Kayellen R. Daily
 AM Linda M. Doty
 E Dr. Jack R. Durrance
 G Carol Eacker
 G Russell Eacker
 G Francine M. Evers**
 E Catherine Long Gates
 G Dennis B. Gates
 RM Joseph H. Hoage
 AM Mrs. Morris James
 RM Dr. Carl Jorgensen
 G Jerilyn Knudtson
 G John Knudtson
 AM Roy G. Krug
 G Barbara Lewis
 E Everett Long

G Lynda D. Love
 AM Thomas L. Magee
 AM Suzanne McCarthy
 G Ellen McIntosh
 A Robert McIntosh
 AM David G. Miller
 G Patricia Morgan
 G Randy P. Penn
 AM Betty Roberts
 G Robert E. Stetson II
 A Lisa Tsiao

Region 21

A Susan L. Anderson
 AM Mickey Anson
 RM Ardeth J. Bailey
 AM Irene H. Boardman
 G Marion Burleigh
 A Marie Cain
 RM C. T. (Chuck) Claussen
 RM Signey Claussen
 E Allan G. Ensminger
 AM Mary Ferguson
 G Vincent Fox
 G Mrs. Vincent Fox
 RM Gene Gaddie
 AM Larry Harder
 AM Mrs. Charles C. Hemmer
 AM Charles C. Hemmer
 AM Michael C. Hemmer
 AM Patrick R. Hemmer
 AM Lester Hildenbrandt
 RM Mrs. Leon N. Hockett
 RM Jim Hummel
 RM Vera Hummel
 AM Marjorie Jansen
 RM Dorothy M. Johnson
 AM Eugene J. Kalkwarf
 G Christa Kohout
 G Richard Kohout
 AM Carolyn Lingenfelter**
 A Andrew Lucas
 G James Lucas
 RM Barbara Mapes
 RM Evangeline Martindale
 AM Roger P. Mazur
 G LeRoy Meininger
 G Neal E. Pohlman
 G Calvin H. Reuter
 G Viola Schreiner
 AM V. O. Sellers
 RM Mrs. Kempton Settle

G Tim Stanek
 G Barrett Stoll
 AM Lynn Stoll
 G Gary E. White
 G Henry Wulf
 AM Opal Wulf

Region 22

RM Wiley Abshire
 G Ann D. Barrows
 A James B. Bledsoe
 G Doris Boyles
 G Louise Carson**
 G Peggy Chumley
 G Willie C. Cooper
 AM C. A. Cromwell
 AM Mrs. C. Wayne Drumm
 AM Perry Dyer
 RM Mrs. Dan Edelman
 G Leigh M. Ellis
 AM Mrs. Howard Estes
 G M. D. Faith
 G Ramona French
 G Carol Goldsberry
 AM Paul W. Gossett
 G Bonnie Hadaway
 G June P. Hardy
 AM James Hawley
 AM Rilla M. Hickerson
 G Greer Holland
 G MaryAnn Holman
 E Dorothy C. Howard
 AM Lavera Johnson
 G Helen Jones
 RM Dr. W. E. Jones
 RM Mrs. Charles E. Kenney
 G Mrs. Trevor Lyons
 AM Betty Lou McMartin
 G F. W. McVicker
 G Robert Medina
 A Peggy Meekins
 RM Leonard J. Michel
 RM Richard E. Morgan
 E Ronald Mullin
 E Perry L. Parrish
 A Lyle Reininger
 G Randy Renner
 G James W. Russell
 G Sue Schaefer
 AM Marthella Shoemake
 G Aline Smith
 G Fred J. Smith

G James K. Smith
 G Mary A. Smith
 RM Susie Smith
 RM Mrs. Cyrus Stanley
 RM L. D. Stayer
 RM Mrs. L. D. Stayer
 AM Philip Stonecipher
 AM Mrs. Philip Stonecipher
 A Patricia Tanton
 G June Tomlinson
 G Mary P. Watson
 G Leeroy B. Will
 G Beatrice Williams
 G Mrs. John H. Williams

Region 23

G Karen Bergamo
 AM Mrs. Milton J. Clauser
 AM Bill R. Coursey
 G Phil Doonan
 G Sara Doonan
 A Patricia J. Feather
 AM Barbara J. Figge**
 A Ken Fladager
 RM Wilma Friedline
 G Doug Goodnight
 G Dorothy Gordon
 G William S. Huey
 G Reitta Jordan
 G Dr. Scott Jordon
 AM Mrs. Douglas Latimer
 A Tom Tadfor Little
 RM Robert A. Mallory
 G Alma Maxwell
 RM J. E. McClintock
 G Peter McGrath

A Pegi Naranjo
 RM George A. Nickel
 AM Maxine Perkins
 G Patricia Randall
 G Audrey C. Roe
 AM Mrs. Howard Shockey
 RM Mrs. Robert D. Steele
 AM Floyd Stopani
 G Helen Stopani
 G Mary Ellen Tafoya
 AM Mrs. Walter C. White

Region 24

RM Mrs. B. Howard Camp
 RM B. Howard Camp
 AM Margaret Connally
 G Sue Copeland
 G Jane C. Desmond
 AM T. A. Gilliam
 G Scott W. Grant
 G Clara Henderson
 A Mrs. Billy H. Jones
 AM Mrs. J. W. Kuykendall, Jr.
 AM J. W. Kuykendall, Jr.
 AM Joe M. Langdon
 AM Mrs. Joe M. Langdon
 AM Nan Elizabeth Miles
 E Mrs. Raymond N. Miller
 AM Walter Moores
 AM Edith Mitchell Nevels
 A Leland E. Parkins
 A Carrie Rice
 AM Mrs. Donald R. Saxton
 AM Donald R. Saxton
 RM Sarah Scruggs
 AM Mrs. R. P. Van Valkenburgh

Australia

AM John A. Baldwin
 G Barry Blyth
 AM Leslie J. Donnell
 AM Graeme Grosvenor
 G John Taylor

Belgium

G Koen Engelen
 G Willy Hublau

England

G C.E.C. Bartlett
 E H. R. Jeffs
 AM G. H. Preston
 G John C. Russell
 AM N. K. Scopes

France

AM Jean Cayeux

Germany

G Rainer Zeh

Italy

G Anne Barbetti
 G Augusto Bianco
 G Fabio Bigazzi
 G Maria Carla Monaco
 G Valeria Pallesi Romoli
 RM Prof. Gian Luigi Sani
 G Doralisa Ravenni Santi

Japan

AM Akira Horinaka



New Emeritus Judges

For 2000


THIS HONOR IS GIVEN TO JUDGES WHO HAVE RENDERED OUTSTANDING SERVICE to the Society. Appointment as Emeritus Judge is based on service at the national level that goes far beyond the expected conscientious performance as an AIS judge. To be considered for appointment, one should be a judge whose leadership and dedication to the ideals of the Society are of genuine and obvious distinction. The honor is accorded only to persons who have served as fully accredited judges for a minimum of ten years except in the most unusual circumstances.

Catherine Long Gates (Region 20) Former AIS Director. Winner of Distinguished Service Medal. Former AIS Youth Chairman. Served on the Scholarship Committee for AIS. Very active in Region 20 and in the local clubs in Colorado. Major part of three AIS conventions in Region 20, serving as Guest Iris Chairman of the most recent convention there. Owner of commercial garden which makes irises available to people across the country and features a walk-in trade where the customer can dig the iris he or she wants.

Emma Hobbs (Region 6) Former RVP of Region 6, Chairman of 1986 AIS Convention in Indianapolis; with a garden on tour at the same time. Former AIS Director. Winner of the Distinguished Service Medal. Served as AIS Exhibitions Chairman and restored order to that program. Very active in the Dwarf and Median Iris Societies. Has served as editor of many publications for the sections and in Region 6. Still very active in her garden which includes all types of irises and very active in Region 6 and her local club at the age of 80.

Dave Niswonger (Region 18) Former AIS President. Winner of Distinguished Service Medal. Member of AIS Board of Directors. Very active in Region and in local clubs (several of them), active in several sections of AIS. Noted hybridizer. Served in many capacities in Region and sections.

Carol Warner (Region 4) Very active in Region 4, having served in many capacities, including RVP. Very active in local clubs, having served in many positions. Has served as an officer of the Siberian and Japanese sections. Had her garden on tour for the convention in Washington, DC and will have it on tour for the 2001 convention in Pennsylvania. Carol's garden has also been on tour for local and sectional tours.

Ruth Wilder (Region 5) Ruth has served as RVP of both Region 5 and Region 24. She was instrumental in the formation of the Spuria Iris Society and served as its first president. Said to be very helpful to new members as they learn about growing irises. Her garden was on tour for the 1979 Huntsville convention. Very active worker for her local club and her region. 

Exhibition Committee Report


1999

by E. Roy Spperson, North Carolina

FOR THE YEAR 1999, 191 SHOWS SCHEDULES WERE EVALUATED/APPROVED. Of these 186 were spring shows and 5 were fall shows. There was at least one show scheduled in each Region, except Region 6 (Canada). Region 18 (Kansas and Missouri) mounted the most shows—twenty!

Seventeen shows earned Youth Silver and Bronze Medals. 113 shows had Adult Artistic Divisions and awarded the Best Design of Show Certificate/Rosette. 29 shows awarded Youth Best Design of Show Certificates/Rosettes.

Tall bearded irises were chosen Best Specimen at 123 shows. All other iris types had fewer than ten as Best Specimen of Show.

The Nelson Award to honor the iris which has most often been selected Best Specimen of the Show in an AIS accredited show during 1999 is awarded to DUSKY CHALLENGER (Schreiner '86), a tall bearded which won the Dykes Medal in 1992, selected at seven shows. Runners' up were CONJURATION and THORNBIRD, tied for second place, and HELLO DARKNESS, SILVERADO and STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN, in a three way tie for third place. All of these are tall bearded irises. 

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AIS Shows

Winners of 1999

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Silver Medal</i>	<i>Bronze Medal</i>	<i>Best Specimen</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>
Region 1				
Auburn, ME	The Whites	Robert Sawyer	MODERN CLASSIC (TB)	The Whites
South Paris, ME	The Hazeltons	The Whites	BOLD STROKE (TB)	The Whites
Shelburne Falls, MA	Deborah Wheeler	Steven Smith	NORDICA (TB)	Robert Keup
Region 2				
Albany, NY	Dorothy Stiefel	Robert Keup	WABASH (TB)	Virginia Dorwaldt
Buffalo, NY	Corey Schifferli (versata)	Peter Weixleemann	STRANGE BUTTERFLY	Judith Tucholski
Clay, NY	Bob Keup	Loni Marsden	ANNA BELLE BABSON (TB)	Bob Keup
Glens Falls, NY	Bob Keup	Nancy Haley	I. pseudacorus bastardi (SPEC)	Bob Keup
Poughkeepsie, NY	Bob Keup	Ann Keup	LIBERTY HILLS (SIB)	Bob Keup
Region 3				
Hockessin, DE	Theresa Jewell	Joyce Corrin	BRONZETTE STAR (TB)	Esther Martin
Pittsburgh, PA	Larry Grundler	Mike Crole	SILVERADO (TB)	Larry Grundler
Smryna, DE	Theresa Jewell	Jo Corrin	PROUD TRADITION (TB)	June Roop
Townsend, DE	R. Dennis Hager	Connie Marino	SNOWY HILLS (JI)	June Roop
York, PA	Sterling Innerst	Harold Goshorn	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Linda Golembleski
York, PA	Harold L. Griffie	E. Jay Holcomb	GOOD OMEN (JI)	E. Jay Holcomb
Region 4				
Beltsville, MD	Dick Sparling	Ginny Spoon	BABY BLESSED (SDB)	Clarence Mahan
Beltsville, MD	Clarence Mahan	Bruce Hornstein	SILVER DIVIDENDS (TB)	Bruce Hornstein
Beltsville, MD	Carol Warner	Sara & Walter Marley	MAIN CHANCE (JI)	Carol Warner
Charlotte, NC	Dave Hull	Katharine Steele	HALLOWEEN PUMPKIN (TB)	Dave Hull
Fredericksburg, VA	Loie Rose	Jim & Gena Schroetter	THORNBIRD (TB)	Jim & Gena Schroetter
Henderson, NC	Randell & Pat Bowen	Marshall Goforth	PERCHERON (SIB)	Walter Hoover
Henderson, NC	Walter Hoover	June Middleton	PRAIRIE INDIGO (JI)	Walter Hoover
Lightfoot, VA	James & Nelda Pressley	Alice Woodward	HOLDEN CLOUGH (SPEC-X)	John W. Weaver
RTP, NC	Dr. Phyllis Soine	Clarence Mahan	TAWNY (IB)	Anne & Mike Lowe
Salisbury, MD	Thomas Cimino	John Vincent	CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE (TB)	Thomas Cimino
Virginia Beach, VA	Janis Bryant	Bill Smoot	I. japonica (SPEC)	Bill Smoot
Virginia Beach, VA	D. J. Kelly	Frances Thrash	STRUT AND FLOURISH (JI)	D. J. Kelly
Winchester, VA	Clarence Mahan	Sara & Walter Marley	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Clarence Mahan
Region 5				
Anderson, SC	Lucille Chivera	Marshall Goforth	I. fulva (SPEC)	Allie Mae Cvomer
Columbia, SC	Randell & Pat Bowen	Marshall Goforth	LEMON POP (IB)	Randell & Pat Bowen
Gaffney, SC	Marshall Goforth	Randell & Pat Bowen	SWEET SURRENDER (SIB)	Randell & Pat Bowen
Griffin, GA	Lucy Stewart	Don & Betty Jones	JOHN WOOD (SPEC)	Don & Betty Jones
Milledgeville, GA	Cody & Velma Brett	Earnest Yearwood	THORNBIRD (TB)	Joe Scott Watson
Moncks Corner, SC	Randell Bowen	Marshall Goforth	VIOLET MUSIC (TB)	Mary Bolton
Summerville, SC	Joy Murray	Kathy Woosly	RUFFLED VELVET (SIB)	Joy Murray
Region 6				
Akron, OH	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	Wilford James	JESSE'S SONG (TB)	Wilford (Mike) James
Akron, OH	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	Wilford James	MOON'S DELIGHT (TB)	Wilford (Mike) James
Cleveland, OH	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	Wilford James	ICE GODDESS (TB)	Anthony & Dorothy Willott
Columbus, OH	James Gossard	Tracy Knapp	CONJURATION (TB)	Ryan Gossard
Comins, MI	Christina Sparks	Deloras Meinzing	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Christina Sparks
Fort Wayne, IN	Roger & Lynda Miller	Dale Poling	GOLDKIST (TB)	Roger & Lynda Miller
Indianapolis, IN	Charles Bunnell	Roger & Lynda Miller	BRONZE SPRITE (MTB)	Charles Bunnell
Grand Rapids, MI	Donald Sorensen	Bob Wilson	RUSTLER (TB)	Bob Wilson
Grand Rapids, MI	Donald Sorensen	Alice Otter	SILVERADO (TB)	Dolores J. Stouwie
Kalamazoo, MI	Ensata Gardens	Carol Kerr	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Mike & Pam Thomas
Lansing, MI	Ruth & Ray Esper	Robert Hollingworth	CLEAR MORNING SKY (TB)	Lynda A. Walker
Mansfield, OH	Rosemary Tanner	James Ryan	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Carol Ridenhour

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Silver Medal</i>	<i>Bronze Medal</i>	<i>Best Specimen</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>
Middletown, OH	James H. Wilson	John & Deborah Bruce	ROMANTIC INTERLUDE (BB)	James H. Wilson
Muncie, IN	Christine Foy	Jack Norrick	PURE-AS-THE (TB)	Jack Norrick
Royal Oak, MI	Donna Calhoun	Howard Hughes	JOHN HOEHNER (TB)	Ann Cline
Region 7				
Bowling Green, KY	Inez Turns	Irene Hughes	CONJURATION (TB)	Irene Hughes
Dresden, TN	Earnest & Deborah Royal	Bobby & Melinda Goode	MADISON COUNTY (TB)	Carol Ann Carney
Florence, KY	Jess & Elsie Laws	Zetta Lee Laws	COMPETITIVE EDGE (TB)	Jess & Elsie Laws
Jackson, TN	Earnest & Deborah Royal	Marilyn Vernon	DOUBLE AGENT (TB)	Earnest & Deborah Royal
Lebanon, TN	Earnest & Deborah Royal	Betty Wilkins	LACY TUTU (TB)	Betty Wilkins
Lexington, KY	Annette Milch	Rita Adkins	FLAIR (TB)	Evelyn Barker
Louisville, KY	Sheila F. Gardner	Sandra Rawlings	SCREEN PLAY (TB)	Sandra Rawlings
Memphis, TN	Lottie Lough	Mary Ann Collins	CONJURATION (TB)	Lottie Lough
Memphis, TN	Jim Russell	Brenda Belus	DIXIE DEB (LA)	Brenda Belus
Memphis, TN	Steve Stone	Jean Batterman	LADY CELESTA (TB)	Steve Stone
Murfreesboro, TN	Mrs. B. Wilkins	Sue & Layton Gossage	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Sue & Layton Gossage
Nashville, TN	Sue & Layton Gossage	Darnell Hester	TACO SUPREME (TB)	Darnell Hester
Region 8				
Blaine, MN	Lloyd & Patti Weber	Sarah Cater	NIGHT RULER (TB)	Lloyd & Patti Weber
Hales Corner, WI	Francis Rogers	Dorothy Vande	CONJURATION (TB)	Francis Rogers
Hales Corner, WI	Dorothy Vande	Francis Rogers	CRYSTAL RUFFLES (MTB)	Linda Doffek
Mora, MN	Marcy Gaugert	Mary Duvall	ARCHIE OWEN (SPU)	Marcy Gaugert
Madison, WI	Karen Eirich	Judith Baker	DREAMING YELLOW (SIB)	Karen Eirich
Minneota, MN	Joyce Downing	Sharon Schilling	ROSETTE WINE (TB)	Rita Dove
Region 9				
Glencoe, IL	Alice Simon	Bill Hessel	SNOWY EGRET (SIB)	Marge McCannon
Hinsdale, IL	Charles Simon	Cathy Hendrickson	PURE ALLURE (SDB)	Cathy Hendrickson
Hinsdale, IL	Charles Simon	Dale Hamblin	OREGON SKIES (TB)	Mark Timko
Urbana, IL	Jerry & Melody Wilhoit	Cynthia Kermode	THORNBIRD (TB)	Aaron & Brett Johnson
Region 10				
Lafayette, LA	Gordon Rabalais	Dorman Haymon	PROFESSOR NEIL (LA)	Chuck Walkowiak
Region 11				
Boise, ID	Carol & Ken Coleman	Chuck Stanley	CELEBRATION SONG (TB)	Walter Arndt
Missoula, MT	Gary Clark	Bob & Billie Gray	JOY JOY JOY (TB)	Bob & Billie Gray
Ontario, OR	Lucille Pinkston	Carolee Stevenson	SUPERSTITION (TB)	Leora Sturgis
Region 12				
Logan, UT	Jared Harris	Jeffrey Walters	STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (TB)	Jared Harris
Salt Lake City, UT	Val & Barbara Wilson	Florence G. Wheat	CAPTIVE SUN (SDB)	Val & Barbara Wilson
Salt Lake City, UT	Tom & Linda Miller	Darlene Pinegar	VANITY (TB)	Dr. Alan Toronto
Region 13				
Lake Forest Park, WA	Richard Greenberg	Jean Witt	TACT (IB)	Debby Cole
Puyallup, WA	Rita Butler	Mrs. Al Lind	MIRAMAR (CA)	Carole Breedlove
Salem, OR	Keith Keppel	Will Plotner	CHINA PEACH (SDB)	Lee Walker
Spokane, WA	Frank Nickell	Norma Lunden	CONJURATION (TB)	Frank Nickell
Vancouver, WA	Keith Keppel	John Ludi	DEPARTURE (IB)	Vickie Craig
Walla Walla, WA	Margaret McCrae	Billie Johnson	TRIPLE WHAMMY (TB)	Margaret McCrae
Yakima, WA	Kenneth Kennedy	Marjory Clements	MARY FRANCES (TB)	Kenneth Kennedy
Region 14				
Auburn, CA	Bertha Brownlee	Yvette Meador	BLACK AS NIGHT (TB)	Marilyn Weller
Capitola, CA	Lois Belardi	Joe Ghio	QUITO (TB)	Diane Sampson
Chico, CA	Cloudia Owen	Shirley Clark	ROY DAVIDSON (SPEC-X)	Rex Clark
Fresno, CA	John Weiler	George Sutton	UPPER ECHELON (CA)	George Sutton
Henderson, NV	Linda Pires	Oscar Schick	PINK QUARTZ (TB)	Linda Pires
Las Vegas, NV	Lucile Ray	Berkeley Hunt	RUSTLER (TB)	Jean Paul
Modesto, CA	Lorraine Nicholson	Ron de la Motte	STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (TB)	Ken James
Oakland, CA	Bob & Janet Canning	Marjorie Murray	BONNY DOON (CA)	Lewis & Adele Lawyer
Palo Alto, CA	Gigi Hall	John Jones	TENNESSEE GENTLEMAN (TB)	Robert Middleton
Redding, CA	Edna Bryceson	Edna Payne	POINT MADE (TB)	Edna Bryceson
Redding, CA	Phyllis O'Hanlon	Edna Bryceson	AMIGO (TB)	Sandy Olsen

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Silver Medal</i>	<i>Bronze Medal</i>	<i>Best Specimen</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>
Sacramento, CA	Kathy Braaten	Bertha Brownlee	FAR AND AWAY (TB)	Virginia Rudkin
Santa Rosa, CA	Anna & David Cadd	Carol & Richard Elia	OMINOUS STRANGER (TB)	Anna & David Cadd
Ukiah, CA	Joanne McGrew	Kitty Loberg	ESCALONA (CA)	Joanne McGrew
Visalia, CA	Edwin S. Matheny III	George Sutton	CHIEF SEQUOIA (CA)	Dr. John Weiler
Walnut Creek, CA	R & B Circle Gardens	Ed & Mary Ralston	MOMENTUM (TB)	Bob & Janet Canning
Weott, CA	Agnes Tupes	Betty Coyle	SONG OF NORWAY (TB)	Betty Thomas

Region 15

Arcadia, CA	Lynn McIlwain	Kim Ung	PACIFIC HIGH (CA)	Mike Monninger
Palmdale, CA	Helen Radenbaugh	Cheryl Deaton	THORNBIRD (TB)	Cheryl Deaton
Phoenix AZ	Francelle Edwards	Bill Griffor	SOUL SISTER (TB)	Francelle Edwards
Riverside, CA	Mike Monninger	Jim Giles	SEA GAL (CA)	Mike Monninger
San Diego, CA	Steve Rocha	Pat Brendel	WELCH'S REWARD (MTB)	Steve Rocha
Tucson, AZ	Sally Cooperman	Perri Larson	RED AT NIGHT (TB)	Perri Larson
Woodland Hills, CA	Randy Squires	Jean Bossier	TIMESCAPE (TB)	Jean Bossier

Region 17

Amarillo, TX	Kenneth Mazurek	Frances R. Jones	OYEZ (AB)	Kenneth Mazurek
Austin, TX	Roy & Connie Rutledge	Rita Snyder	OZONE ALERT (TB)	Roy & Connie Rutledge
Belton, TX	Doris Harts	Roy & Connie Rutledge	SKY HOOKS (TB)	Mel Landers
Bonham, TX	Dean Van Meter	Melvin Curtis	SPRING PARASOL (TB)	Dean Van Meter
Cleburne, TX	Myrtle Hodges	Lois Wall	LACY PRIMROSE (TB)	Roger & Doris Harts
Dallas, TX	Bonnie & Hooker Nichols	Linda Thornburgh	JACK ATTACK (LA)	Marie Caillet
Ft. Worth, TX	Joe & Donna Spears	Mark Legler	SKATING PARTY (TB)	Joe & Donna Spears
Iowa Park, TX	Carla Moore	Jackie Parker	CLASSICO (TB)	Jackie Parker
Lubbock, TX	Vernon & Dana Brown	Bill & Eupha Skillman	ALTOGETHER LOVELY (AB)	Mary Wilber
Lubbock, TX	Mary Wilber	Dr. Donald Rude	BEURON (SPEC)	Mary Wilber
Midland, TX	Lonie Mitchell	Wilson & Joy Howell	HELLO DARKNESS (TB)	Lonie Mitchell
Mt. Pleasant, TX	Earnest Dyke	Barbara Null	HENRY SHAW (TB)	Earnest Dyke
New Braunfels, TX	Kenneth Triesch	Roy & Connie Rutledge	OZONE ALERT (TB)	Roy & Connie Rutledge
Odessa, TX	Ann Carnes	Wilson & Joy Howell	THORNBIRD (TB)	Wilson & Joy Howell
Sherman, TX	Martha McDowell	Jan & Charles Montgomery	TULARE (BB)	Martha McDowell
Sherman, TX	Charles & Jan Montgomery	Thelma & Ira Inman	AZTEC SUN (TB)	Erebert & Pauline Belcher
Waco, TX	Jim Landers	Bob Alexander	MESMERIZER (TB)	Bob Alexander

Region 18

Barnhart, MO	Frances Boyd	Tom Gormley	LEMON POP (IB)	Tom Gormley
Barnhart, MO	Stan Grien	Lee Charlton	CELEBRATION SONG (TB)	Lee Charlton
Cape Girardeau, MO	Dan & Nancy Elliott	Helen Lowes	GREAT GATSBY (TB)	Helen Lowes
Columbia, MO	Dennis & Merritt Van Landuyt	Dan & Audrey Judy	HELLO DARKNESS (TB)	Wayne Merrill
Crestwood, MO	Jim Morris	Riley Probst	VANITY (TB)	Corey Landwehr
Des Peres, MO	Jim Morris	Riley Probst	COUNTRY DANCE (IB)	Jim Loveland
Dodge City, KS	J. C. Sinclair	Robert Preston	JAMIE LYNN (TB)	Jettie Sage
Garden City, KS	Wanda Smith	Duane Van Dolah	HELEN PROCTOR (IB)	Duane Van Dolah
Garden City, KS	Wanda Smith	J. C. Sinclair	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Duane Hays
Hutchinson, KS	JoAnne Hooker	Nellye Drake	NEW IDEA (MTB)	Kendal Rohr
Joplin, MO	Mary Brown	Leonard Michel	WORLD PREMIER (TB)	Barbara Bowman
Parsons, KS	John Spare	Betty Hare	EVERYTHING PLUS (TB)	John Spare
Springfield, MO	Calvin Helsley	Bev DeWitt	SAILOR'S DANCE (TB)	Ben Johnson
St. Joseph, Mo	Jim Hedgecock	Bev Hoyt	TIGER HONEY (TB)	Bev Hoyt
St. Louis, MO	Jim Morris	Jim Loveland	SWEET CHARLOTTE (MTB)	Jim Morris
St. Louis, MO	Jim Morris	Jim Loveland		Jim Morris
St. Louis, MO	Orville Dickhaut	Nyla Hughes	BLUE SPRITZ (JI)	Nyla Hughes
Washington, MO	Mike Theissen	Barbara Fouts	PASSION FLOWER (TB)	Stephanie Rust
Wichita, KS	Helen Reynolds	Dorothy Dickson	BOLD PRINT (IB)	Dorothy Dickson
Wichita, KS	Alice Markley	Kendal Pohr	ACOMA (TB)	Claude Evans

Region 19

Deptford, NJ	Ray Rogers	Martha Griner	ART DECO (TB)	Martha Griner
Lawrenceville, NJ	William & Martha Griner	Joe Griner	PARDNER (MTB)	Mary Townsend
Morristown, NJ	Margo Griner	Nancy Szmuriga	HOT SPICE (IB)	Nancy Szmuriga
Morristown, NJ	Joe & Margo Griner	Bob Keup	KALAMAZOO (JI)	Curtis A. Taylor

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Silver Medal</i>	<i>Bronze Medal</i>	<i>Best Specimen</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>
Region 20				
Colorado Springs, CO	Lynda Love	Morris Steinheimer	SUPREME SULTAN (TB)	Rob Stetson
Denver, CO	Randy Penn	Lowell Baumunk	GEMSTAR (SDB)	Lowell Baumunk
Denver, CO	Rob Stetson	David Thomas	HELLO DARKNESS (TB)	Rob Stetson
Parker, CO	Lowell Baumunk	Randy Penn	PRECIOUS MEMORIES (AB)	Rob Stetson
Rocky Ford, CO	Karen Tomky	Emery Swartzendruber	COLORADO SUNSHINE (TB)	Linda Tomky
Region 21				
Lincoln, NE	Eugene Kalkwarf	Allan Ensminger	FRENCH PERFUME (TB)	Opal Wulf
Norfolk, NE	Marjorie Jansen	Neal Pohlman	PREMIER EDITION (TB)	Cal Reuter
Omaha, NE	Chris Janke	Jim Ennenga	CORAL COAST (TB)	Chris Janke
Scottsbluff, NE	Leah Meininger	June Hara	PRAETORIAN GUARD (TB)	LeRoy Meininger
Sioux City, IA	Arnold Koekkoek	Sye & Ruth Roghair	FINALIST (TB)	Arnold Koekkoek
Region 22				
Enid, OK	Michael & Ann Dee Barrows	Bill & Carol Goldsberry	QUEEN OF ANGELS (TB)	Michael & Ann Dee Barrows
Hot Springs, AR	James Bledsole	Susie Smith	HINDENBURG (TB)	Jack L. Anderson
Lawton, OK	Marjorie Puckett	Dean Hooker	SKY HOOKS (TB)	Marjorie Puckett
Lawton, OK	Nancy & Norbett Kowalchuk	Marjorie Puckett	QUITO (TB)	Nancy & Norbett Kowalchuk
Little Rock, AR	Tom Dillard	Linda Bell	ROYAL APPEAL (LA)	Tom Dillard
Oklahoma City, OK	Louise Carson	P. L. Parrish	DIXIE DEB (LA)	Dottie Weissenberger
Ponca City, OK	Mickey & Ann Barrows	Carol & Bill Goldsberry	STARDUST MEMORIES (TB)	Mickey & Ann Barrows
Searcy, AR	LaVera Johnson	Marylne Coker	RED ECHO (LA)	LaVera Johnson
Tulsa, OK	Dean & Georgia Brand	Phyllis & Trevor Lyons	PINK TAFFETA (TB)	Jerry James
Region 23				
Albuquerque, NM	Irene Shockey	Pete McGrath	I. stolonifera (SPEC)	Pete McGrath
Albuquerque, NM	Cindy Rivera	Rex Bullard	HOLDEN CLOUGH (SPEC-X)	Cindy Rivera
Albuquerque, NM	Hsia-fen Tien	Cindy Rivera	SALAKO (TB)	Irene Shockey
Hobbs, NM	Kay Snead	Kerry Romine	ELEANOR'S PRIDE (TB)	Kay Snead
Las Cruces, NM	Rosemary Anderson	Margaret Dean	WELL ENDOWED (TB)	Priscilla Lockyear
Roswell, NM	Peg Naranjo	Gary Biggs	SILVERADO (TB)	Clifton Frosch
Santa Fe, NM	Patricia Feather	Henry Day	PERSIAN PADISHAH (AB)	Tom Tadford Little
Region 24				
Blountsville, AL	Clyde Walker	Ovelle Hudson	HONKY TONK BLUES (TB)	Kenneth & Hazel Jones
Grenada, MS	Walter Moores	Billie Lynn Jones	STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (TB)	Truman Scarborough
Huntsville, AL	Margaret Connally	Betty J. Burch	NIGHT MAGIC (TB)	Margaret Connally

Squawks from Mama Robin

✿ I have been trying, for a long time, to get a semi-accurate nose count of Robin Members. I will settle for a close-to-accurate count of how many robins are flying, and on what subjects. Every time I think I've got it, another robin either hatches out, or bites the dust.

✿ How about it you guys? (You know who you are) Won't you let old Mom Robin in on your changes?

- From Libby Cross, Virginia

AJS Artistic Shows *Winners of 1999*

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Best Design</i>	<i>Artistic Sweepstakes</i>	<i>Best Design Youth</i>	<i>Artistic Sweepstakes Youth</i>
Region 1				
Auburn, ME	Nancy McNeil	Nancy McNeil	Jolene Best	Jolene Best
South Paris, ME	Marilyn Mollicone	Evelyn White		
Shelburne Falls, MA	Deborah Wheeler	Deborah Wheeler	Pauline Cerone	
Shelburne Falls, MA	Evelyn White	Andrew Wheeler	Pauline Cerone	
Region 2				
Buffalo, NY	Chris Hartman			
Clay, NY	Kathleen Haskins	Diane Crandall		
Region 3				
Pittsburgh, PA	Dianne Mrak			
Region 4				
Charlotte, NC	Marie Cruse			
Fredericksburg, VA	Jim Schroetter	Martha Carter		
Virginia Beach, VA	Julia Duneja & Mary Westfall			
Virginia Beach, VA	Julia Duneja	Winnie Bryant		
Region 5				
Anderson, SC	Laura Yon	Betty Ann Payne		
Columbia, SC	Shirley Paquet			
Gaffney, SC	Pam Goforth	Phil Gibson	Tiffany Jackson	
Milledgeville, GA	Joe Scott Watson	Ira Parnell	Justin Cowart	
Region 6				
Akron, OH	Dorothy Willott	Dorothy Willott & Mike James		
Akron, OH	Dorothy Willott	Dorothy Willott		
Cleveland, OH	Frances Holecek	Marija Zupancic		
Columbus, OH	Dottie Bates	Dottie Bates		
Comins, MI	Deloras Meinzingner	Deloras Meinzingner		
Fort Wayne, IN	Sara Gartin			
Indianapolis, IN	Betty Polanka	Betty Polanka		
Grand Rapids, MI	Ruth Levanduski	Leta Kwiatkowski		
Grand Rapids, MI	Ruth Levanduski	Ruth Levanduski		
Lansing, MI	Joan McComb			
Mansfield, OH	Johanna Bodiford	Kay Hostetler		
Muncie, IN	Ruth Moorhead	Ruth Moorhead & Betty Thomas (tie)		
Region 7				
Bowling Green, KY	Mary Keown	Mary Keown		
Lebanon, TN	Lou Ehrcke	Lou Ehrcke		
Louisville, KY	Irma S. Jockell	Paul Owen	Krissy Legg	
Memphis, TN	Mary Mueller	Raul Robles		
Memphis, TN	Patricia Ginn			
Murfreesboro, TN	Jeaneen Benedict	Jeaneen Benedict		
Nashville, TN	Viola Wright			
Region 8				
Blaine, MN	Inge Hempel	Inge Hempel		
Mora, MN	Mary Duvall		Mary Duvall	
Madison, WI	Keith Eirich	Keith Eirich	Mike Witt	Mike Witt
Minneota, MN	Lorilee Miller	Sally Goodman		

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Best Design</i>	<i>Artistic Sweepstakes</i>	<i>Best Design Youth</i>	<i>Artistic Sweepstakes Youth</i>
Region 9				
Glencoe, IL	Pat Hessel	Pat Hessel	Heather Hamblin	
Hinsdale, IL	Betsy Grimm	Betsy Grimm		
Hinsdale, IL	Betsy Grimm	Betsy Grimm		
Region 11				
Boise, ID	Louisa Cone	Louisa Cone		
Missoula, MT	Joyce Walters			
Ontario, OR	Louisa Cone	Louisa Cone		
Region 12				
Logan, UT	Charlotte Brennand	Charlotte Brennand	Josh Brown	Josh Brown
Salt Lake City, UT	Tom & Linda Miller			
Salt Lake City, UT	Cathy Hagan Reed	Cathy Hagan Reed		
Region 13				
Puyallup, WA	Carole Breedlove	Carole Breedlove	Sarah Harwood	Sarah Harwood
Salem, OR	Laurie Ystad	Nancy Miller		
Spokane, WA	Larry Littman	Paul Harms		
Vancouver, WA	Laurie Ysted	Kay Ludi		
Walla Walla, WA	Barbara Ryan	Jean Dietrich		
Yakima, WA	Judy Boekholder	Dorothy S. Munroe		
Region 14				
Auburn, CA			Katie Moriarty	Patrick Stark & Clay Reason
			J.T. Moreno	
Chico, CA	Mary Old			
Fresno, CA	Laverne Cottet	Laverne Cottet		
Las Vegas, NV	Lucille Ray	Lucille Ray	Mona Kay Fabbi	Mona Fay Fabbi
Redding, CA	Carolyn Hoyum	Jessie Roberson		Kari Nicolls
Ukiah, CA	Dede Ledford	Anna Cadd		
Visalia, CA	Joe Nunes	Joe Nunes		
Weott, CA	Agnes Tupes			
Region 15				
Palmdale, CA	Joyce Bertram			
Phoenix, AZ	Deborah Nolan			
Riverside, CA	Elaine Monninger	Mike Monninger		
San Diego, CA	Jean E. Johns	Pat Brendel		
Tucson, AZ	Sumi Pugh	Sumi Pugh		
Woodland Hills, CA	Eileen Fiumara	Eileen Fiumara		
Region 17				
Amarillo, TX	Kathy Palmer	Kathy Palmer	Caitlin Porter	Caitlin Porter
Austin, TX	Pat Freeman	Pat Freeman		
Bonham, TX	Dean Van Meter			
Cleburne, TX	Bob Alexander	Bob Alexander		
Dallas, TX	Rusty Thornsburg	Diane Beuel		
Iowa Park, TX	Annetta Reusch	Annetta Reusch		
Lubbock, TX	Rosemary English	Rosemary English		
Lubbock, TX	Rosemary English	Rosemary English		
Midland, TX	Lonie Mitchell	Lonie Mitchell		
Sherman, TX	Gordon Green			
Sherman, TX	Alisa Peters	Gordon Green		
Waco, TX	Hazel Haik	Hazel Haik		
Region 18				
Columbia, MO	Wayne Merrill	Wayne Merrill	Chris Arthur Kory Kuntz	
Crestwood, MO	Carrie Reifsteck	Jean Morris		
Des Peres, MO	Jo-An Finke	Jean Morris		
Dodge City, KS	Marti Woods	Alice Sinclair	Rachel Hindle	Rachel Hindle
Garden City, KS	Mary Lou Hays	Mary Lou Hays		
Hutchinson, KS	Saundra Grimm	Saundra Grimm		
Joplin, MO	Florence Brower	Florence Brower		
Parsons, KS	Lucy Pearce	Lucy Pearce		

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Best Design</i>	<i>Artistic Sweepstakes</i>	<i>Best Design Youth</i>	<i>Artistic Sweepstakes Youth</i>
Springfield, MO St. Joseph, MO St. Louis, MO	Eural Simpson Lamayne Hedgecock Nadine Wallenstein	Eural Simpson Lamayne Hedgecock Nadine Wallenstein & Veda Schlictemier	Kory Kuntz	
St. Louis, MO St. Louis, MO Washington, MO Wichita, KS Wichita, KS	Vince Italian Theo Sprague Jay Westervelt Jay Westervelt	Vince Italian Vickie Fieser Jay Westervelt Jay Westervelt	Joyce Fields Christopher Rust Stephanie Rust Jennifer Schmidt Jennifer Schmidt	Christopher Rust Jennifer Schmidt

Region 19

Morristown, NJ Margo Griner

Region 20

Colorado Springs, CO	Betty Roberts	Betty Roberts	Kasi Wyatt	Kasi Wyatt
Denver, CO	Jo James			
Denver, CO		David Thomas	Amanda Strickland	
Parker, CO	David Thomas			
Rocky Ford, CO	Lillian Malouff & Rose McClain	Lillian Malouff		

Region 21

Lincoln, NE	Gladys Ensminger	
Norfolk, NE	Marjorie Jansen	Marjorie Jansen
Omaha, NE	Barb Luebbert	Barb Luebbert
Scottsbluff, NE	Viola Schreiner	Viola Schreiner
Sioux City, IA	Dennis Wolf	Dennis Wolf

Region 22

Enid, OK	Doris George		Monica Combrink
Hot Springs, AR	Rosalyn Halbert	Rosalyn Halbert	
Lawton, OK	Scottie Finney	M/M Howard Edwards	
Lawton, OK	Scottie Finney	M/M Howard Edwards	
Little Rock, AR	Amy Schuh	Amy Schuh	
Oklahoma City, OK	Christal Sapp-Glenn	Christal Sapp-Glenn	
Tulsa, OK	Jeanne Cotten	Kaye Burnham	

Region 23

Albuquerque, NM	June Ballog	June Ballog		
Hobbs, NM	Becky Seigman	Elaine Bartlett	Ashley Romine	Ashley Romine
Roswell, NM	Sue Chambers	Sue Chambers	Ashley Scitern	Ashley Scitern
Santa Fe, NM	Shelby Green	Shelby Green		

Region 24

Blountsville, AL Delois Dunn Dorothy Holmes

AIS Membership

8053 as of Dec. 31, 1999

AIS Shows

Youth Winners of 1999

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Silver Medal</i>	<i>Bronze Medal</i>	<i>Best Specimen-Youth</i>	<i>Exhibitor-Youth</i>
Region 2 Albany, NY	Jake Mohr	Laura Salhoff	BUMBLEBEE DEELITE (MTB)	Laura Salhoff
Region 3 Hockessin, DE Pittsburgh, PA Smryna, DE York, PA	Clair Jewell Clair Jewell Ashley Ocamb	Briana Hargett Adam Barezewski	COLORTART (TB) DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB) CHAPEAU BLANC (TB) CONJURATION (TB)	Clair Jewell Corwin Ritenour Clair Jewel Ashley Ocamb
Region 5 Milledgeville, GA	Kristen Geeter	Bill Weathers	BELLEVILLE COQUETTE (TB)	Bill Weathers
Region 7 Louisville, KY	Krissy Legg	Amanda Mattoch	BOLD GOLD (TB)	Amanda Mattoch
Region 9 Urbana, IL	Aaron & Brett Johnson	Ben Bermingham	THORNBIRD (TB)	Aaron & Brett Johnson
Region 14 Chico, CA Las Vegas, NV Redding, CA	Kris Kooi Karlie Hill Alan Cope	J. T. Mareno Allsye Cope	GAY PARASOL (TB) STRIKE IT RICH (TB) BRIDAL WREATH (TB)	Kris Kooi Karlie Hill Allyse Cope
Region 17 Odessa, TX	Ryan Carnes	Stephanie Strauss	HARLEM HUSSY (TB)	Bethany Davilla
Region 18 Crestwood, MO Des Peres, MO Hutchinson, KS Washington, MO	Kory Kuntz Stephanie Rust Bethany Masterson Stephanie Rust	Corey Landwehr Christopher Rust Rachel Hindle Christopher Rust	VANITY (TB) PRECIOUS LITTLE PINK (IB) SUGARTIME (TB)	Corey Landwehr Stephanie Rust Rachel Hindle
Region 22 Enid, OK Ponca City, OK	Eric Whitebay Eric Whitebay	Monica Combrink Kelsey Whitebay	BOOGIE WOOGIE (TB) SINISTER DESIRE (IB)	Eric Whitebay Eric Whitebay
Region 23 Albuquerque, NM	Kelsey McGrath	Whitney McGrath	CHAMBER MUSIC (TB)	Kelsey McGrath



Displays

Educational & Commercial

Place of Show

Educational

Commercial

Region 2

Albany, NY
Poughkeepsie, NY

Robert Keup
Robert Keup

Region 4

Beltsville, MD
Beltsville, MD
Fredericksburg, VA

Don Spoon
Ginny Spoon
Sharon Lipiec

Region 5

Anderson, SC
Gaffney, SC
Milledgeville, GA
Summerville, SC

Steve Smeet
Everette Lineberger
Cindy White
Sandy Stafford

Ira Parnell
Pat Bowen

Sandy Stafford

Region 6

Fort Wayne, IN

Gerry Donahue

Region 7

Louisville, KY

Lula Reynolds

Region 11

Missoula, MT

Carryl Meyer

Region 13

Salem, OR
Vancouver, WA

Aitken's Salmon Creek Gardens
Aitken's Salmon Creek Gardens
Schreinners Iris Garden

Region 14

Auburn, CA
Chico, CA
Las Vegas, NV

Art Bern
Cloudia Owen
Dean Lamar Allen Grade School (Grade 3)

Region 15

Phoenix, AZ

Golden's Iris Garden
Kary Iris Gardens

Tucson, AZ

Bert Detwiler
Ohara School of Ikebana

Region 17

Amarillo, TX
Cleburne, TX

Billie Corbell
Bob Alexander

Region 18

Garden City, KS
St. Louis, MO
St. Louis, MO
Washington, MO

Wanda Smith
Jean Morris
Stephanie Rust
Daziann Cowsert & Ashleigh Stricker

Region 19

Morristown, NJ

Bob Keup

Region 20

Colorado Springs, CO

Joe & Kay Gagnon

Lola Quinn

Region 22

Enid, OK
Hot Springs, AR
Lawton, OK
Lawton, OK
Little Rock, AR
Tulsa, OK

Monica Combrink
Jack L. Anderson

M/M Howard Edwards
Brenda Nease
Celia Storey
Paul W. Gossett

Exhibition Certificates

for 1999

Tall Bearded

Allen, James	JA 305
Bange, George	92-1
Baumunk, Lowell	93NoCo-1
Baumunk, Lowell	94 FFRT-1
Baumunk, Lowell	94x10-10
Baumunk, Lowell	94x10-29
Baumunk, Lowell	94BELB-1
Baumunk, Lowell	94HBEE-10
Bingham, Jim	89-07-09
Blais, Carol B.	98-96-35
Brown, Opal	92-3B1
Carter, Ryan	97-11A
Chadwick, Keith	99-G-5
Cochran, Helen	94-02-B
Cochran, Helen	94-02-D
Cope, Breena	1-98
Crump, J. Griffin	I-92
Dunn, Bob	B2092
Dunn, Mary	M 2148E
Edelman, Reggie	RKE-1
Ensminger, Allan	89-57
Ensminger, Allan	ENS-95-55
Ghio, Joe	96-105PLC
Griner, Erin	E96-01A
Grise, Dr. William	319
Grundler, Larry	98-2-1
Harris, Jared	AH-115
Hornstein, L. Bruce	SS-95-04 NH
Innerst, Sterling	36571
James, Wilford (Mike)	MJ 99-11
James, Wilford (Mike)	MJ 99-13
Jameson, Mitch	1-95
Jewell, Theresa	93-01-08
Jewell, Theresa	94-25-05
Johnson, Aaron	98-2A
Johnson, Ben	A 49 B
Johnson, Roy	95-1
Koch, Robert	A90-5PH
Magee, Tom	9221 B
Magee, Tom	9324A
Meininger, LeRoy	RS #2
Meuir, Randy	163-95-A
Moore, Walter	Chocolate Chess
Moorhead, Gerry	91-35-6
Moorhead, Gerry	93-71-2
de la Motte, Ron	95-54-16
Mueller, Adam	93-60-3
Nearpass, Dr. D. Charles	90-84
Niswonger, O.D.	53-99
Niswonger, O.D.	54-97
Owen, Paul E.	Freddie Blue
Pierce, John	R - 3
Pinegar, Darlene	HU-95-85C

Reynolds, Keith	RP94501
Robertson, Leon	924 A
Rogers, Francis	C-529-D
Schick, Oscar	95-20-CO1
Schifferli, Greg	SH 5 BR
Schreiners Gardens	AA-1586-A
Smith, Marky	Blitzen
Stahly, Harold	A3-43
Stahly, Harold	95-3
Stetson, Rob	N96A-1
Stevens, Stephen	95-1-1
Sturgis, Leora	Heart Breaker
Sutton, George	SLCL-DS
Sutton, Michael	J-214-D
Swinstyn, John	G39-2
Theissen, Mike	93-1
Tripp, John	90J8-1
Tripp, John	93J7-1
Tripp, John	95J3-2
Willott, Anthony & Dorothy	W 92-229
Willott, Anthony & Dorothy	W 92-231
Willott, Anthony & Dorothy	W 95-208
Worel, Jack	99-1-27
Zurbrigg, Lloyd	KK 103-1-2

Standard Dwarf Bearded

Baumunk, Lowell	625N
Baumunk, Lowell	633w
Baumunk, Lowell	645H
Baumunk, Lowell	94MuOD-14
Bowen, Randell and Pat	4-17
Charlton, Lee	94-2-1
Evans, Claude	E-98-1
Jones, Bennett C.	596-1
Jones, Bennett C.	601-2
Keppel, Keith	94-7A
Keppel, Keith	94-10-F
Keppel, Keith	94-25B
Keppel, Keith	94-36-B
Keppel, Keith	97-36-A
Lankow, Carol/Terry Aitken	OL13
Moeller, Mike	bo/bo/rb 1
Moeller, Mike	lo/lo/rb 1
Ritchie, Jayne	91-20-3
Smith, Marky	94-30A
Spoon, Don	96-26A
Spoon, Don	96-32B
Spoon, Don	97-558A
Spoon, Don	97-617A
Tasco, Richard	96-SDB-13-02
Willott, Anthony & Dorothy	W 95-121
Willott, Anthony & Dorothy	W 96-21
Willott, Anthony & Dorothy	W 97-8
Willott, Anthony & Dorothy	W 99-19

Intermediate Bearded

Cadd, Anna and David	45-92-12
Keppel, Keith	97-47-D
Morris, Jean	I-92-1W
Rogers, Francis	C-302-A
Spoon, Don	97-596A
Sutton, George	L-185-IB-RE

Miniature Dwarf Bearded

Hazelton, Warren	97-7-1
Wood, Vernon	9950

Border Bearded

Cadd, Anna and David	62-92-1
Cadd, Anna and David	82-93-1
Gossard, James	MN+PP
James, Wilford (Mike)	MJ 93-1
Johnson, Aaron	98-14
Lankow, Carol/Terry Aitken	Who Knows?
Markham, Lynn F.	95-9A3
Sorenson, Donald	S-95-16-2
Spoon, Don	95-182 A
Vizvarie, Chris	BRN-1

Miniature Tall Bearded

Fisher, Ken	97-1
Karnes, Phillip	PK-4
Loveland, Jim	94 PQX2T
Loveland, Jim	98-2
Norricks, Jack	97-5
Probst, Riley	Plum Quirky
Probst, Riley	Somewhat Quirky
Rogers, Ray	MTB#1
Sorenson, Donald	S-91-36-11
Thurman, Hugh	92-18-1
Wyss, Betty	9118-23

Arl & Arilbred

Baumunk, Lowell	92 BFTP-5
Boswell, Carl	Omar's Eye
McGrath, Pete	McAR95-12A
Shockey, Howard	85-37-6B
Shockey, Howard	85-37-8C
Stetson, Rob	AB 96 H 6
Stetson, Rob	AB 96 H 7
Sutton, George	AM-1-RE
Vossen, Carole	9-31
Vossen, Carole	36.1

Californicae

Cole, Debby	95PG3
Ghio, Joe	PB-50
LaBorde, Elena	99-BB6C-3
Lawyer, Lewis and Adele	XP 317 A
Lawyer, Lewis and Adele	XP 321 A
Plotner, William E.	952 SPX PC
Stremel, John	PU 980010
White, John W.	PCI-12
Wood, Vernon	97-66
Wood, Vernon	98-18
Wood, Vernon	98-34
Wood, Vernon	99-3
Wood, Vernon	99-5
Wood, Vernon	99-45

Louisiana

Faith, M.D.	69646 "Ann Faith"
Haymon, Dorman	FBXV-5-83
Haymon, Dorman	4-93-1
Monninger, Michael	L-99-3
Morgan, Richard	L 845 D
Paquet, Shirley M.	LP-2

Japanese

Ackerman, William L.	B5a-1
Ackerman, William L.	B6a-5
Ackerman, William L.	B7a-9
Bowen, Randell and Pat	1 BC-03
Bowen, Randell and Pat	1 BC 27-48
Delmez, Don	SP-PHST
Innerst, Sterling	5220-1
Kelly, D. J.	FE-un-96
Marino, Connie	52-93
Marino, Connie	4X-95
Matheny, Ed	J:00-14-94
White, John	95JFW16-3

Siberian

Bellagamba, Louise	S-196
Berling, Richard	97-3-A
Copeland, James and Jill	99FM-1
Hamblin, Dale	96-12-SLS
Helsley, Calvin	93-9
Helsley, Calvin	96-2
Hollingworth, Robert	97A5B3
Hollingworth, Robert	97C8B15
Kermode, Cynthia	TTIGO199
McEwen, Currier	T892/24A
Miller, Roger and Lynda	SIB-S2GE99
Murphy, Tim	Seedling #1
Pohlman, Neal	96-40-3
Schafer, Marty & Jan Sacks	S92-54-10
Varner, D. Steve	415
White, John W.	96 SD-MW 6-11
Willott, Anthony & Dorothy	W 86-67
Willott, Anthony & Dorothy	W 96-57
Worel, Jack	Siberian, blue

Spuria

Sutton, George	SPR 3
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Species

Copeland, Jill	1-I-2
Wheeler, Andrew	Dark-1-1
Wilhoit, Jerry and Melody	W-99-1

Sino-Siberian**Versicolor**

Bowen, Randell and Pat	WH-99
Hoover, Walter	JDB-7-8

High Commendation

Awards for 1999

THE HIGH COMMENDATION (HC) IS RESERVED FOR SEEDLING IRISES VIEWED IN gardens, under seedling number or registered name, which have not yet been introduced. The HC Award is granted to each seedling that receives five or more votes.

(Note: results not considered final until verified by registrar)

<i>Type</i>	<i>Hybridizer</i>	<i>Iris name or sdlg#</i>	<i>Votes</i>
TB	Dyer, Perry	GHOST	9
TB	Dyer, Perry	90-194A	5
TB	James, Mike	MJ 99-11 TB	6
TB	Magee, Tom	88-15E	5
TB	Magee, Tom	927B	5
TB	Nichols, Hooker	9543A	7
TB	Schreiner's	CC-98-1	5
TB	Schreiner's	EE134-4	6
TB	Schreiner's	EE813-3	5
TB	Willott, A&D	W-92-231	5
TB	Willott, A&D	W95-208	7
IB	Magee, Tom	SIGNET RING	5
BB	Durrance, John	MARY McKENNA	9
MTB	Markham, Stephanie	96-3A	5
MTB	Markham, Stephanie	97-9RA	5
MTB	Thurman, Hugh	92-18-1 (Madam President)	6
SDB	Burton, Lucy	L92-B-2	5
AR/AB	Stanek, Timothy	SKI	5
SPU	DeSantis, Pete	84-40C	5
Species	Markham, Lynn	94-62A	5
JI	Reid, Lorena	9J55-10D	7

Minutes

of the Board of Directors Meeting

St. Louis, Missouri November 5 – 7, 1999

The Fall meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Iris Society was called to order by President Clarence Mahan at 7:45PM on November 5, 1999. A welcome on behalf of Region 18 was given by RVP Jim Morris, and thanks were expressed to Riley Probst and the Greater St. Louis Iris Society, for hosting this meeting.

Mahan welcomed the group and invited all present to participate in discussions. Introductions followed. Present during the various sessions were: **Officers:** President Mahan, Immediate Past President Niswonger, 1st Vice-President and Editor Aitken, 2nd Vice-President J. Plank, Secretary S. Marley, Treasurer Hudson; **Administrative Officers:** Publication Sales Directors N. & I. Pocklington, Ombudsman Begley, Recording Secretary A. Lowe, Registrar Keppel; **Parliamentarian:** R. Figge; **Directors:** Campbell, Epperson, B. Figge, Gossett, Guest, M. Lowe, Moller, Jean Morris, Perkins, Pope, Probst and Shepard; **RVP Representative:** C. Meyers (11); **Committee Chairs:** Rice-Waters and Mullin; **RVPs:** Weixlmann (2), Marley (4), Thurman (7), Dickhaut (9), Meyer (11), Reid (13), Jim Morris (18), Evers (20), Carson (22), B. Figge (23); **RVP Elect:** JaNiece Mull (4); **Section President:** D. Willott (MIS); **Guests:** W. Marley, B. Mull, Mary Brown (4); Honkanen (5); A. Willott (6); John Jones, Trio (14); R. Plank, G. Snyder (15); Byrne (17); Bellagamba, R. Gormley, Italian, A. & D. Judy, J. & R. Kiesling, D. & J. Loveland, Pries, C. & S. Rust, (18); Holman (22); Bergamo, Gordon (23).

Minutes: The following additions and corrections were made to the minutes of the 1999 Spring Board meeting as published in AIS *Bulletin* #314:

1. President's Report, pg. 84, line 3: Betty Burch is in Region (7), not (24).
 2. Exhibitions, pg. 90, line 3: should read "Probst asked if EC ballots could be duplicated..."
- J. Plank moved that the minutes be approved as modified. Gossett seconded. Carried.

Board of Elections Report: Secretary Marley reported that there were no additional nominations, therefore Mike Lowe, Shirley Pope, Mike Moller and Riley Probst are duly elected and qualified as Directors with terms expiring in 2002. RVP Representative Carryl Meyer was welcomed to the Board.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

President:

- Mahan requested Board approval of the re-appointment of Rosalie Figge as AIS Parliamentarian. Approval was unanimous.
- In interim Board action, Mahan reported that the July Symposium was declared null and void following the omission of a number of eligible irises from the ballot. This came about because the eligibility rules for the symposium in the *Judges Handbook* were not revised and updated when the Wister Medal was established and the Awards system was modified to reflect this change. A revised ballot was included in the October *Bulletin*.
- Mahan requested approval of the interim appointment of Harold Peters as Advertising Editor. Plank moved approval; Hudson seconded. Carried.
- The absence of items that should have appeared in the July and October *Bulletins* was noted. Mahan asked the Editor to be sure that these items appear in the January and future *Bulletins*.

First Vice President: Aitken said he had no report.

Second Vice President: J. Plank reported that the transition to Secretary Marley had been completed except for the shipment of the complete set of *Bulletins* traditionally held by the Secretary. The question of whether or not the AIS Secretary must possess a full set of AIS minutes was discussed. R. Plank stated that a legal reason for having the Secretary keep a full set of minutes is a

moot point as scanned minutes are readily available at any time, and the question of a scan being considered a legal document is a nebulous point which is unlikely to arise.

S. Marley noted that Keith McNames has copied all the original minutes from the Book of Minutes sent to the library last spring. J. Plank further reported that Gerry Snyder is in the process of scanning all the AIS minutes and that she will keep the *Bulletins* until this project is completed. Snyder said that minutes through 1950 are now available on disk and stated that he expects to have all minutes scanned and available by April 2000.

Secretary: Marley reported that the recent changes to the AIS Bylaws had been approved. She asked that Committee Chairmen send in their bills for reimbursement at least every 3 months, and she noted that original or hard copies of bills were needed as fax copies are often impossible to read.

Donations Secretary J. Plank presented an up-to-date report detailing donations received during the past 11 months. She stated that she was contacting various groups and individuals to make them aware of the several funds which can be supported by donations and to explain the procedure for making donations.

Treasurer: Hudson stated that all financial records are now computerized. Some erroneously paid taxes from past years will give us a sizable refund as will a rebate on AIS liability insurance. Jill Bonino has resigned as our auditor. No Y2K problems are expected with either finances or membership. Hudson reported that the affinity card project is a dead issue as no one would take AIS on because we do not have a large enough membership.

Member vs non-member pricing structure was discussed. No action taken.

The guidelines established for the Publication Fund were reviewed and specific criteria for its use were discussed. Hudson moved that the Treasurer transfer 25% of the sales from Store Front publications into the Publications Fund until a cap of \$50,000 is reached. Plank seconded. Carried.

Editor: Editor Aitken detailed budget needs for the coming year, citing an increase in cost per issue due to perfect binding and higher postage costs. He presented anticipated changes in the *Bulletin* for year 2000.

Advertising Editor: Marley reported that Peters is contacting prospective advertisers. Mahan noted that Peters' ad in the *Bulletin* does not represent a conflict of interest.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORTS

Membership: Harlow's report was mailed to all Board members prior to the meeting as she was unable to attend. As of September 30, 1999 membership is 7,786. In first place is Region 4, followed by Regions 14, 18, 17 and 15 respectively. Harlow proposed that current members of record with a June 30th expire date have their memberships extended to December 31st of the same expire year in order to conform to the calendar year membership. Proposal approved.

It was noted that notification of the Senior Discount for Life Memberships, enacted in the Spring, had never appeared in the *Bulletin*.

Harlow recommended that a new membership list not be printed due to decreased demand for a printed list.

Mahan initiated a discussion on increasing the availability of the membership list to AIS members and especially to those whose AIS-connected duties required this information. It was noted that a current list on disk can be purchased at any time for 15 dollars from the Membership Secretary. Several options were presented and Mahan stated that more study of this subject was needed.

Mahan commented that we needed to reduce the number of non-renewals. He announced that a brainstorming session regarding membership strategies was planned for later in the meeting.

Registrar: Keppel gave preliminary quotes for printing the 1999 *Registrations and Introductions* booklet and asked the Board to decide the number of booklets to be printed. Probst moved that 700 be printed; Epperson seconded. Carried.

Re the 1999 *Check List*, Keppel reported that registrations for the period 1990 – 1998 had been entered. Still to be done is integration of the 1999 *R & I* into the text, the index of hybridizer/introducer addresses, and the awards listing.

Keppel explained the need to 'legitimize' certain non-registered cultivars which have been in commerce for more than ten years and which, in his opinion, should be documented for our records. He requested Board sanction to do limited no-fee registrations at his discretion. Plank moved approval; Epperson seconded. Carried

Publication Sales: N. Pocklington presented income and expense figures to date and stated that sales were within projected limits.

She cited the need to reorder *The Gardener's Iris Book* by Bill Shear. The need to decrease the large inventory of postcards was discussed at length. Guest was asked to write a *Bulletin* article promoting the uses of AIS postcards.

Pocklington was instructed to destroy all copies of the existing *Convention Handbook* after the revised version is approved and ready for distribution.

Surplus Bulletin Chairman Paul Gossett reported that sale of surplus *Bulletins* had been good, but that he has on hand a large number of 1998 and 1999 issues.

He announced that he is resigning this Chairmanship effective January 2001. In commenting on the duties of the position, Gossett noted that paying for postage involved in sending out surplus *Bulletins* was his donation to AIS and that a new chairman might request reimbursement for postage. Carryl Meyer volunteered to take over the job when Gossett retires. Appreciation was expressed to both.

Ombudsman: No report.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

BIC Revision and Reprint: Epperson reported that 15,000 copies of a 40 page 6x9 inch booklet will be printed at a cost of \$4995. These will be in the Store Front in time for the Spring shows. The revised *BIC* will sell for \$1.50 each or \$15 for 25 copies. Pope moved that Epperson proceed; Guest seconded. Carried.

Bulletin Indexing: Aitken reported little progress during the summer months.

Classroom Membership and Use of the Ruth Simmons CIP Fund: Chairman Jean Morris reported on the items discussed by committee members who recommend that (1) the CIP Fund be used to pay dues for CIP teachers; (2) the CIP Fund be used to pay part or all of the dues of any child who is unable to afford the cost; and (3) CIP members be counted as regular Youth Members. Carried.

Committee to Investigate Height Standards of MDBs: Chairman Lowe presented a review of the problem and proposed that AIS should:

- Continue basically as we have since the last change until a well considered/disseminated proposal for change is presented to the AIS Board. (When a proposed change affects two or more special interest iris groups, the change should be satisfactory to all groups affected.)
- Correct the 1998 Handbook for Judges and Show Officials to reflect established height standards.
- Establish and promulgate a uniform and rational English (FPS) measurement standard for iris class heights based on the existing metric heights.

Plank moved acceptance of the recommendations. Epperson seconded. Carried.

D. Willott presented a background of the events leading to the action of the Dwarf Society in making a change in MDB height to 10 inches. Registrar Keppel emphasized that, when registering irises, hybridizers should give a specific height, not a range of one or more inches.

Lowe moved that the Metric measurements remain as they were set in 1976 and the English equivalents be:

<i>MDB</i>	<i>up to 8"</i>
<i>SDB</i>	<i>8-16"</i>
<i>IB</i>	<i>16-27.5"</i>
<i>MTB</i>	<i>16-27.5"</i>
<i>BB</i>	<i>16-27.5"</i>
<i>TB</i>	<i>over 27.5"</i>

Epperson seconded. Carried.

M. Lowe moved that changes in the International Registrations Standards of Classification of Irises can only be made by the AIS Board of Directors. J. Morris seconded. Carried.

Electronic Checklist: No report from Chairman Stahly.

Internet Commerce: Committeeman John Jones presented a comprehensive overview of the advantages of an iris Internet auction service and detailed the expenses involved. Following lengthy discussion, Hudson moved that the Board approve expenditures as recommended by the ICC and that Jones proceed to negotiate a contract to establish an iris Internet auction site, the contract to be subject to approval by the Executive Committee and Legal Counsel R. Plank. Guest seconded. Carried.

Jones presented rationale for a proposal to provide registration and check list information on-line.

He recommended that he be authorized to negotiate a contract to establish a subscription and database search service at a cost not to exceed \$300, with contract terms to be approved by the AIS Board of Directors. This service will provide access to *R&Is* and *Check Lists* at a subscriber's fee of \$10, and the AIS Registrar will have final approval of all material entered into this database. Guest moved approval; Probst seconded. Carried. It was felt that this service would not be in conflict with the *Electronic Check List* currently in progress by H. Hughes.

Keppel stated that he looked forward to the time when all registration records are in electronic form so that registration information can be readily upgraded and corrected.

Regarding the liability status of the AIS webmaster, R. Plank stated that the webmaster would be covered under AIS insurance if he/she is a duly appointed official of AIS. M. Lowe moved that the AIS webmaster be made a Standing Committee and that the present webmaster be appointed as Chairman; Epperson seconded. Carried. Mahan noted that John Jones has volunteered to take on the AIS webmaster job when Scott Aitken wishes to step down.

Lowe moved that an Electronic Services Committee be established and that it be made a Standing Committee. Epperson seconded. Carried.

Mahan appointed Jones (Chairman), Guest and Hudson to serve. Approval moved by Lowe; seconded by Guest. Carried.

The proposal to provide an on-line AIS Store Front was accepted in principle and further action was deferred until Spring.

Millennium Check List: No report from Chairman Hughes.

Non-profit Incorporation and Tax Exempt Status for Sections, Regions and Affiliates: Epperson reported that December 31, 1999 is the deadline for the first group submission to the IRS for 501(c)(3) status. R. Plank will contact the IRS and request that those regions and sections which have completed all requirements be included under the AIS 501(c)(3) provision. Other groups will be added as they complete the necessary requirements.

Operations Manual: Chairman Epperson stated that he will be contacting each officer, Administrative Officer and Standing Committee Chairman asking each for a documented job description. He expects to have the *Operations Manual* completed by Fall 2000.

Rare Iris Study Center: Policy Chairman M. Lowe noted that the Rare Iris Study Center was an *ad hoc* committee of long standing and asked if it should be made a Standing Committee. Mahan asked for a statement of purpose for the Center. In the absence of Chairman Waddick, Niswonger explained that the purpose of the group was to promote a service and a mechanism to: (1) collect, distribute and preserve rare iris species; (2) determine the status and distribution of rare species; (3) keep a record of location of these species throughout the world; (4) encourage field studies of irises grown in the wild to decide if a species is endangered and take action to preserve it; (5) locate irisarians willing and able to grow rare species for the purpose of preservation; (6) encourage the maintenance of pure/true species as well as hybrids. Jean Morris moved that the Rare Iris Study Center be made a Standing Committee and that Jim Waddick serve as Chairman. Perkins seconded. Carried. Mahan noted that this Center provides a valuable service and is deserving of wider exposure to all AIS members.

RVP Handbook Revision: Chairman Probst stated that he would have a report in Dallas.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Affiliates: Chairman Pope reported the number of affiliates unchanged during 1999. She presented an Affiliate Contest proposal from Bob Keup (2) and requested Board approval to appoint a committee to work with Bob in drafting a worksheet for this contest. Gossett moved approval; Epperson seconded. Carried. Guest, Weixlmann, G. Snyder and Gossett were appointed to the committee with Keup as chairman. Pope will act as advisor, and a report will be presented at the spring meeting.

Awards: Chairman Campbell noted some of the difficulties encountered with the 1999 Ballot and thanked those who counted ballots for their help. The list of HC winners has been completed and will be in the January *Bulletin*.

Campbell discussed the many problems associated with the current Symposium, and stated that it would be helpful if this job could be split out of the Award Chairman's duties. Mahan recommended that a new Standing Committee be approved for the specific purpose of conducting the Symposium, and that Gerry Snyder be appointed as Chairman. J. Plank moved approval; Pope seconded. Carried. Snyder will handle the current Symposium. Mahan affirmed an earlier Board decision to omit write-in votes on the Symposium. Epperson noted that necessary changes regarding the Symposium in the *Judges Handbook* will be forthcoming.

The uninsured Dykes Medal for CONJURATION was lost en route to Mrs. Byers. BIS President Bartlett was contacted and has agreed to send future Dykes Medals to the AIS Secretary for presentation by the AIS President during the National Convention. The Executive Committee previously agreed that the CONJURATION medal should be duplicated at AIS expense.

Campbell noted that Monty Byers had won a prize at the Moscow International TB Competition and the medal is being sent to RVP Loberg for presentation to Mrs. Byers. The Payne Medal, won by Jonnye Rich (deceased) will be accepted by B. and J. Whitely.

Mahan noted that the AIS no longer gives a "keeper trophy" to winners of the Cook, Presidents and Walther Cups. By consensus it was agreed that a plaque containing Cup name, winners name, iris name and the year would be appropriate and should be re-instituted in the year 2000. J. Plank moved that Campbell be authorized to bring a suitable selection of plaques for Board approval in Dallas. Perkins seconded. Carried.

Calendars: Chairman Rice-Waters reported that work on the calendar for 2001 is proceeding and that it is scheduled to be available before the Spring 2000 shows begin. She noted that printing costs would be less this year as calendars will be printed in Hong Kong instead of Tokyo, and recommended that 3500 copies be printed at an approximate cost of \$6860. Carried.

Rice-Waters noted that a large number of 2000 calendars are still in stock, possibly due to lack of advertising of their availability in the *Bulletin*.

Convention Liaison: Chairman Gossett distributed a list of the sites of upcoming national and Fall conventions and reviewed the schedule for the Dallas Board meeting. Ft. Worth has offered to host the Fall Board Meeting in 2002. Epperson moved acceptance; Probst seconded. Carried.

Following the recent sale of convention guest irises over the Internet at greatly reduced prices, it was recommended that the AIS adopt the following policy: 'Guest irises donated to the region or society that hosts conventions be sold only within the host region.' After discussion, it was decided that this matter of ethics would be dealt with in the upcoming revision of the *Convention Handbook*.

Attendees at this meeting strongly recommended that: (1) for guests attending future Board meetings, especially RVPs, copies of the long agenda and committee reports should be available; (2) Board members increase their use of microphones so that guests may hear; (3) a copy machine be placed in the meeting room to facilitate availability of printed material.

Exhibitions: Chairman Epperson noted that the present cost of show entry tags is too low. He moved that the sale price for entry tags for accredited shows, currently sold at \$11 for a pack of 250, be changed to \$10 per pack of 200. Carried.

Foundation Liaison: No report. Mahan will contact Foundation President Hollingworth regarding the annual Foundation report for the *Bulletin* as requested in Oklahoma City.

Historian: No report.

Honorary Awards: Chairman Niswonger reported a good supply of all medals on hand. The Warburton Medal now has ample funding to set up and strike the medals and a supply has been ordered. Niswonger thanked those who helped bring this project to completion.

Insurance: G. Snyder presented Chairman M. Snyder's report in which was requested a Board decision regarding insurance coverage for the President's Cup and the Cook Cup. M. Snyder noted that adding these to present coverage would require an appraisal. After discussion, Epperson moved that AIS continue its present policy of self insurance; M. Lowe seconded. Carried.

M. Snyder also clarified insurance coverage of sections. (*See Section Liaison.*)

Judges' Handbook Revision: Mahan restructured the Handbook Revision Committee as follows: Epperson, Chairman; Crick, Mullin, and Shepard. Niswonger moved approval; Pope seconded. Carried.

Chairman Epperson distributed the list of recommended Handbook revisions, and during discussion, other changes and corrections were recommended. Epperson requested approval of all corrections and modifications. Carried. The final list of changes will be sent to all Board members for approval prior to printing in January 2000.

Epperson reviewed the format of the Model Show Schedule which will be available in time for the Spring show season.

Distribution of the revised pages was discussed. It was decided that Epperson will send the Handbook revisions and a copy of the Model Show Schedule to all judges and Apprentice Judges. For those who are not judges, the pages will be available from Epperson by request. There will be no charge to either group for the revisions. An announcement to this effect will be in the *April Bulletin*.

Epperson announced that the new *Invitation to Join* brochures are available from him upon request and are free of charge.

Judges and Judges Training: Chairman Mullin presented the question of separating judges into Exhibition and Garden categories. After discussion, it appeared that this was not an issue that could be resolved at this time and no action was taken.

With reference to the matter of making the requirement of the Activity Report similar to the requirement for voting the Ballot, i.e. that a person not be dropped for failure to send in a report until he/she has missed two years in a row, Mullin requested input from the Board. The validity and need for this report on an annual basis was discussed pro and con. This matter will be referred to the RVPs for consideration and discussed again in Dallas.

Regarding a situation in which a person from another country is seeking approval to be an AIS judge when he is not a judge in his own national iris society, Mullin recommended that the Board adopt the following policy: "When an individual who is not from the United States or Canada is recommended for appointment as an AIS judge there must be a letter of concurrence from that person's national society if that society has a formal judges' program." Epperson moved approval; Perkins seconded. Carried.

Chairman Mullin requested Board input regarding appointment of a Region 5 judge who had met all requirements but whose name was inadvertently dropped. The Board reaffirmed the policy of leaving correction of errors of this type to the discretion of the Chairman of Judges. Mullin will include Mrs. Harper on the approved list of accredited judges.

Perkins moved approval of the list of judges for the year 2000 as modified; Epperson seconded. Carried.

Library: The Secretary distributed Chairman McNames' report. McNames recommended that the library provide its services at no charge. M. Lowe moved to accept the recommendation; Epperson seconded. Carried. Mahan announced that the Library Board will be asked to develop policies and procedures for the AIS Library to be presented to the AIS Board as a plan of action.

Silverton has been unable to provide the services agreed to in the original library contract and wishes to renegotiate the current agreement. They recently submitted a revised contract which must be carefully reviewed and discussed. The matter will be brought before the Board in Dallas for review and final determination to comply with the five year review (of the ten year contract) due in October 2000.

Membership Contest: Report not received by meeting time. Chairman Miller's report will be published in the *Bulletin*.

Policy: Chairman M. Lowe distributed policies enacted at the Spring 1999 meeting. He noted that he would be furnishing a compilation of Board actions relevant to individual Officers and Committee Chairmen to assist them in preparing material for the *Operations Manual*.

Lowe explained rationale for a change in policy regarding the voting of the *Board of Directors Award*. He moved that the AIS voting procedure for the *Board of Directors Award* be such that a candidate is voted on at the AIS Board meeting following the meeting during which the iris is nominated. Epperson seconded. Carried.

Public Relations: Chairman Guest reported on PR projects to date. To further her goal of assisting regions and affiliates to recruit and retain members, she explained plans for a upcoming Newsletter Contest. Entries will be judged on overall quality and on specific categories of content. Qualified Judges have been obtained and they will develop the criteria for the contest. The winner will receive suitable recognition. RVPs and regional Editors will receive a letter containing all the particulars.

Aitken moved that the Board authorize six *Bulletin* subscriptions to be sent to Garden Magazines as a PR tool. Gossett seconded. Carried. Guest will select the magazines to receive these *Bulletins*.

Registrations: Chairman Keppel reported that registrations are a little ahead of last year and that his office is producing revenue.

Robins: Report not received in time for meeting.

RVP Counselor: Moller distributed the following list of recommended RVP appointments for 2000:

First Year Appointments:

Region	4	JaNiece Mull	Region	13	John Ludi
	7	Eleanor Boyson		15	Gail Barnhill
	12	Leon Robertson		24	Hazel Jones

Second Year Appointments:

Region	1	Ada Godfrey	Region	17	Bonnie Nichols
	2	Peter Weixlmann		19	Raymond Rogers
	3	Vincent Lewonski		20	Fran Evers
	5	Randall Bowen		21	Carolyn Lingenfelter
	10	Elaine Bourque		23	Barbara Figge

Third Year Appointments:

Region	6	Howard Hughes	Region	14	Kitty Loberg
	8	Edwin Kelsey		16	Catherine Boyko
	9	Orville Dickhaut		18	Jim Morris
	11	Carryl Meyer		22	Louise Carson

Moller moved approval of all candidates. Carried.

President Mahan announced that Director Moller has asked to be relieved as RVP Counselor and he requested approval of the appointment of Bobbie Shepard to this position. Niswonger moved approval; Perkins seconded. Carried.

Scientific: The Secretary presented Chairman Fulton's report. Fulton quoted from Andrew Wheeler's report on the Mutation Project which was funded in 1998. Andy hopes to have bloom in some seedlings in 2000 but expects much more bloom in 2001. He will continue to report on the results. The future status of Dr. McEwen's plant disease project is unknown.

Mahan noted that Fulton was asked last fall to investigate the need for developing a resource for chromosome counts, and to find out who already has the necessary equipment. He was also asked to work up a cost analysis for implementing this project. Dr. Fulton will be contacted regarding the status of these projects.

Scholarship: Chairman Taylor's report presented by the Secretary. Jill Johnston, winner of the 1999–2000 AIS Graduate Scholarship has received the first half of her award. Hallie Sims, scholarship winner for 1998–1999 has received her final allotment and her report to the committee is pending.

Section Liaison: Chairman Probst presented a current list of scheduled Section Mini-Conventions.

In response to concerns about section liability, he cited Insurance Chairman M. Snyder's statement that "Sections and individual members of sections are covered under the AIS policy the same as affiliates. Those members who do not belong to AIS would not be covered under the AIS Liability policy if a claim were brought directly against them."

Silent Auction: Chairman Perkins reported that the Silent Auction in Oklahoma City brought in \$6,374.50 and she commented that the success of this venture was largely due to the good help given her by the volunteers who worked long and hard.

J. Plank stated that she had in her possession eight 50th Anniversary Silver Medals and suggested that six of these might be donated to the Silent Auction. During discussion, it was noted that there were also 50th Anniversary Bronze Medals available. Plank moved that the 50th Anniversary medals be offered for sale at future silent auctions in pairs, one silver and one bronze, over the next several years and that 2 pairs be auctioned in Dallas. Marley seconded. Carried.

Slides: The report was read by the Secretary. Chairman Nichols thanked Dave Niswonger, Paul Gossett and Dave Schreiner who furnished slides for the AIS collection during the summer. The Board expressed gratitude to these three gentleman for their generous and timely support. Moller announced that in Dallas he would begin photographing specifically for the AIS Slide Collection.

Youth: Chairman Morris thanked everyone who donated to the Clarke Cosgrove Fund and to the Jay Ackerman Essay Fund as well as the many people who donated money in memory of Ruth Simmons and others, making possible the formation of the Classroom Iris Project Fund.

The Cosgrove Fund is in excellent shape and Morris moved approval of a plan to increase the scope of the Cosgrove Award to include a monetary award to the first and second runners-up. In the case of a tie, each will receive the designated amount. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mahan gave an update on the ongoing correspondence with TBIS President Phil Williams regarding the AIS invitation to the TBIS to become a section and distributed copies of his letters to Williams.

- J. Plank reported that she has contacted a number of overseas iris societies and that several of their bulletins are currently being received.
- R. Plank discussed options with regard to the formation of an endowment fund and presented the following proposals for consideration:
 1. AIS shall establish a restricted AIS Endowment Fund.
 2. Donations earmarked by the donor for the fund may be cash, securities, real or personal property. The Fund shall be limited to the management of money or donations converted to money as soon as reasonably possible upon receipt. Upon receipt of other than cash, the Treasurer shall convert the donations to cash. The Treasurer shall invest donations in a separate FDIC insured account. The account shall require the signatures of the President and the Treasurer. The investment income as it accrues shall be applied quarterly for the benefit of the AIS general fund.
 3. The principal of the fund shall not be invaded for any purpose.
 4. Due to the restricted operation of the fund, the approval of the Board shall be by a two-thirds majority vote. Any changes or future actions shall also be by a two-thirds majority vote.
 5. The treasurer shall provide the Board with a semi-annual and annual financial report of the fund. Following discussion, Epperson moved approval; Probst seconded. Carried.
- R. Plank and Hudson presented recommendations for establishment of a subsidiary incorporated fund administered by its own Board of Directors. This option might become necessary should the scope of donations become too large to manage under the present system. It was felt

that although this process would require much consideration, the organizational basics should be initiated now.

Probst moved that an *ad hoc* committee be established to draw up articles of incorporation and bylaws for approval by the AIS Board. Niswonger seconded. Carried. Mahan appointed R. Plank as Chairman; Hudson and Probst to serve. J. Plank moved approval, Gossett seconded. Carried.

- Region 2 RVP Weixlmann gave a progress report on the organizational conflict within the Empire State Iris Society. A new set of AIS compliant regional bylaws, as opposed to the Affiliate bylaws now in effect, has been developed and will be distributed on December 1 to the Region 2 members for a vote. Under the present bylaws, The Empire State Iris Society is both Region 2 and the only affiliate. If the regional bylaws are approved, the mechanism will exist to allow for the recognition and formation of multiple affiliates, of which the Empire State Iris Society will be one. The new bylaws will enable Region 2 to be eligible for coverage under AIS 501(c)(3) umbrella. Weixlmann hopes to report resolution of the situation by the Dallas meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- *Bulletin* Editor Aitken wishes to step down after the July 2000 issue. Mahan recommended that an announcement inviting interested parties to apply and submit a resume be placed in the January *Bulletin*. It was felt that the job should be advertised as a paid position but it is to be noted that salary is optional. Second Vice-President Plank will oversee this project and the Executive Board will act as a search committee, presenting a recommendation for the new editor at the spring Board meeting.

Niswonger moved approval; Jean Morris seconded. Approved.

Although the July *Bulletin* will be his last, Aitken offered to assist the new Editor in working with the present Portland contractors through 2000.

- A suggested change in the format used when names of iris in text appear in the *Bulletin* was submitted by Gail Barnhill (15). Discussion was deferred until spring.
- Mahan noted the need to begin compiling information about hybridizers not covered in the present *Iris Chronicles*. Board members and guests were urged to select a hybridizer, living or dead, and to compile as much information as possible about the person and his/her contributions to the iris world. Mahan requested volunteers to assist in organizing the project. Sara Marley, Jeanne Plank, Jim Morris, Carryl Meyer, and Judy Keisling offered to serve. S. Marley will head this group. Mahan noted that he has had discussions with Anner Whitehead regarding her becoming Project Director for this undertaking. Anner has indicated that she will consider doing so after the ground rules are established.
- Establishment of an Electronic Store Front was deferred until spring. However, the Board voted to purchase a computer system at this time for Sales Director Pocklington, the cost not to exceed \$2000. This purchase will allow a training period prior to establishment of an electronic sales program.

Election of Officers:

First Vice-President Aitken assumed the chair during election of the President. Gossett nominated C. Mahan; Plank seconded. Epperson moved that nominations cease and that the Secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Mahan. Niswonger seconded. Carried. Mahan resumed the chair.

Plank nominated T. Aitken for First Vice-President, Niswonger seconded. Epperson moved that nominations cease and that the Secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Aitken. Niswonger seconded. Carried.

Marley nominated J. Plank for Second Vice-President, Perkins seconded. Epperson moved that nominations cease and that the Secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Plank. Aitken seconded. Carried.

Plank nominated S. Marley for Secretary, Gossett seconded. Niswonger moved that nominations cease and that the Secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Marley. Morris seconded. Carried.

Plank nominated J. Hudson for Treasurer, Marley seconded. Epperson moved that nominations cease and that the Secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Hudson. Niswonger seconded. Carried.

Perkins nominated T. Aitken for Editor, Pope seconded. Epperson moved that nominations cease and that the Secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Aitken. Niswonger seconded. Carried.

Honorary Awards: The Board adjourned to Executive Session to discuss the recommendations of the Honorary Awards Committee and the Chairman of Judges. Following the closed session, Mahan reported as follows:

- The AIS Gold Medal was awarded to Dr. Currier McEwen.
- Hybridizer's Medals were awarded to Dorothy Guild, Tomas Tamberg and Dorothy and Anthony Willott.
- Catherine Long Gates, Emma Hobbs, Dave Niswonger, Carol Warner and Ruth Wilder were approved as Emeritus Judges.

Appointment of Administrative Officers: President Mahan requested approval of the following appointments:

Registrar: Keith Keppel
 Membership Secretary: Marilyn Harlow
 Advertising Editor: Harold Peters
 Recording Secretary: Anne Lowe
 Publication Sales Directors: Irv and Nancy Pocklington
 Ombudsman: Lew Begley

Aitken moved approval; Gossett seconded. Carried.

Standing Committee appointments: Mahan requested approval of the following committee chairmen:

Affiliates:	Shirley Pope	Policy:	Mike Lowe
Awards:	Farron Campbell	Public Relations:	Kathy Guest
Calendar:	Olive Rice-Waters	Rare Iris Study Center:	Jim Waddick
Convention Liaison:	Paul Gossett	Registrations:	Keith Keppel
Electronic Services:	John I. Jones	Robins:	Libby Cross
Exhibitions:	Roy Epperson	RVP Counselor:	Bobbie Shepherd
Foundation Liaison:	Roger Mazur	Scientific:	Dr. Chandler Fulton
Historical:	Larry Harder	Scholarship:	Dr. John Taylor
Honorary Awards:	Dave Niswonger	Section Liaison:	Riley Probst
Insurance:	Michelle Snyder	Silent Auction:	Maxine Perkins
Judges Handbook:	Roy Epperson	Slides:	Hooker Nichols
Judges:	Ron Mullin	Symposium:	Gerry Snyder
Library:	Keith McNames	Webmaster:	Scott Aitken

Plank moved approval; Gossett seconded. Carried.

Mahan reappointed Marie Caillet, Jeane Stayer, and Jean Witt as Members-at-Large to the Honorary Awards Committee. Niswonger moved approval; Plank seconded. Carried.

The proposed budget was reviewed in detail and estimated revenues and expenses were discussed line by line. Treasurer Hudson will send the completed budget to all Board members.

Mahan led a discussion which focused on the development of strategies to recruit and retain members for AIS. All present contributed to the discussion and some innovative and practical suggestions were made. Mahan asked as many as possible to remain after the meeting to continue the session.

A vote of thanks was extended to Chairman Rita Gormley and members of the Greater St. Louis Iris Society for their gracious hosting of this Board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15AM on November 7, 1999.

Anne S. Lowe
 Recording Secretary

American Iris Society Foundation

Contributions to the American Iris Society Foundation are used for the research of the genus iris, administration of scholarships and the support of the AIS Library through the Evelyn Jones Memorial Library Fund. This research includes the taxonomy as well as the cause of diseases and their cures. Over the years, grants have been issued to the top researchers and educational institutions throughout the United States as well as internationally.

April 1, 1999 - October 1, 1999

Contributions in memory of:

Ackerman Youth Essay Contest

Tri-County Iris Society (MI)

Olga Amend (NE)

Timothy Stanek (IA)

Leo Barnard (CA)

Irene & Bob Armand (CA)

Jean Brown (CA)

Marilyn J. Holloway (CA)

Vernon D. Wood (CA)

Opal Brown (OR)

Timothy Stanek (IA)

Lucie Burley (AR)

M. D. Faith & June Faith (AR)

Richard C. Butler (AR)

M. D. Faith & June Faith (AR)

Dorothy Schenebeck (AR)

Paul W. Gossett (OK)

Walter A. Moores (MS)

Jay C. Conklin (CA)

Marilyn J. Holloway (CA)

Bill Maryott & Marilyn Harlow (CA)

Dr. Ralph Deger (OH)

Miami Valley Iris Society

Helen K. Durgin (ME)

Maine Iris Society

Lahme Eberhardt (OH)

Miami Valley Iris Society (OH)

Norman J. Frisch (WI)

Region 8, AIS

General Fund

Tucson Area Iris Society

Ruth Goebel (CO)

Francine M. Evers (CO)

Clara Goula (LA)

Marvin A. Granger (LA)

Marge Hagberg (IL)

Region 9, AIS

Ben Hager (CA)

Walter A. Moores

Bob Brooks (CA)

Marvin A. Granger (LA)

Marilyn J. Holloway (CA)

Vernon D. Wood (CA)

Elsiemae, Nelson & Larry

Nichols (CA)

Doris Leighton Glover (MA)

Edith Wolford (TX)

Tim Stanek (IA)

Bennett C. Jones (OR)

Mr. & Mrs. Sanford Babson (CA)

Roris Gardens (CA)

Manley & Toshiko Osborne (CA)

Orange County Iris & Daylily

Society (CA)

Maynard Edwin Harp (MD)

Francis Scott Key Iris Society (MD)

Helen F. Harrigan (KY)

Louisville Area Iris Society (KY)

Virgil L. Ingbretson (MN)

Region 8, AIS

Iris Society of Minnesota

Kay Keppel (CA)

Timothy Stanek (IA)

Harry B. Kuesel (CO)

Timothy Stanek (IA)

Region 20, AIS

Francine M. Evers (CO)

Tucson Area Iris Society (AZ)

Joe Mertzweller (LA)

Marvin A. Granger (LA)

Henry Rowlan (AR)

M. D. Farith & June Faith (AR)

Dorothy Schenebeck (AR)

Clayton Sacks (ME)

Maine Iris Society

Bettye Shaver (AR)

M. D. Faith & June Faith (AR)

Ruth B. Simmons (OK)

M.D. & June Faith (AR)

Fred & Aline Smith (OK)

Capt. Otis R. Skinner Ret. (TX)

Marvin A. Granger (LA)

Mrs. Norbert B. Vaught (CA)

Glenn F. Corlew (CA)

Edith P. Wheeler (CA)

Mt. Diablo Iris Society (CA)

Marilyn J. Holloway (CA)

Sue Wright (OH)

Miami Valley Iris Society (OH)

Alice E. Yates (ME)

Maine Iris Society

How can you make a contribution or memorial gift to the American Iris Society Foundation?

Checks should be made payable to the American Iris Society Foundation. When sending a memorial gift, please include the name and address of the next-of-kin, so an acknowledgement card may be sent. Your tax-deductible donations should be sent to:

The American Iris Society Foundation

Roger P. Mazur Sec./Treas.

5824 Erskine #7

Omaha, NE 68104-4159



In Memoriam:

Ralph J. Chubbuck (Kansas)*James Cooper* (Oklahoma)*Mrs. Daniel Fuller* (Connecticut)*Marion Hager Gould* (California)*Gilford A. Harrison* (Arkansas)*Carolyn Hughes* (Ohio)*Vernon H. Keesee* (Texas)*Mrs J. Johnson* (Ontario, Canada)*Evangeline Martindale* (South Dakota)*Ronald Miller* (Michigan)*Marjorie Peninger* (Arizona)*Robert Reeder* (Utah)*Bettye Q. Shaver* (Arkansas)

AIS Storefront

Sale Items & Publications

\$27.00 *The World of Irises*

Highly recommended! 32 pages of full color. Edited by Warburton and Hamblen, 34 contributors and authors including international authorities. Published in 1978 and most authoritative book on all phases of irises. Scientific and popular. 6" x 9" hard bound cloth cover, 526 pages.

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Basic Iris Culture. Pamphlets. Great information for new iris growers. Ideal for clubs or shows.

Free

Invitation to Join. Available with show schedules or from the storefront with regular orders.

\$4.50 *AIS Bulletins: Back Issues* (not all issues available)

\$14.00 ea. *Check Lists: 1939, 1949, 1959, & 1969*
Reprint. Soft cover.

\$17.00 *Check List, 1979*
Reprint. Hard cover. Ten-year compilation of registrations 1970 - 1979.

\$17.00 *Check List, 1989*
Hard cover. Ten-year compilation of registrations 1980 - 1989.

\$7.00 ea. *Registrations and Introductions:*
1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, and 1999.

\$2.50 *Bronze 50th Anniversary Medals*
The AIS 50th Anniversary medal in antiqued bronze. Suitable for pendants, show prizes, and special awards.

View Before You Buy!

The official AIS Website now has photos of several of the Storefront sales items, so you can see what they look like.

Go to: www.irises.org

75th Anniversary Collection

\$25.00

Commemorative Medal

Solid Silver, 1 ½ inches across. Only 500 struck.

\$4.50

Bulletin

\$2.50, 1 pack

AIS Seals (50 per pack)

\$10.00, 5 packs

Self-adhesive ovals are larger than a half dollar.

Official design in blue and green on silver background.

2000 Iris Calendar: See inside front cover.

\$6.00 each, or \$33.00 for packs of 10

1998 & 1999 Iris Calendar - While They Last

\$3.00 each, or \$13.00 for packs of 10

\$4.00, 1 pack

Iris Post Cards (16 per pack)

\$10.00, 3 packs

\$25.00, 10 packs

AIS can now accept VISA & Mastercard (sorry, no other charge cards) for Storefront orders (minimum order: \$10.00). When charging your order, please include card type and number, expiration date, phone number, and signature.

Prices include postage and handling. Make checks payable to The American Iris Society, or include charge card information. Send order to:

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Phone: (217) 854-2184

609 Harrington St

Carlinville, IL 62626-1230

The Gardeners Iris Book

By Willam Shear

176 pages, 163 color photos.

In this book William Sear, a 40-year veteran of iris growing, shares his expertise in choosing, planting, growing and propagating exquisite irises of many types. Cultural advice for the most desirable and adaptable iris types allows the gardener to choose the irises best suited to his region of the country.

Single copy:

\$17.00, postpaid

Affiliates & Sections, 10 or more copies: \$14.00 each, postpaid

Rent Slide Sets from the American Iris Society

AIS Slide Sets available for 1999:

The Newest in Irises: 1993–1998 Introductions. Mostly TBs, but contains other types.

Recent Award Winners: HM and AM Winners, 1992 – 1997

The Popularity Poll: Temporarily unavailable.

Types other than Tall Bearded: Bearded and beardless, arranged in blooming sequence.

Reliable: Mostly past award winners of various types—especially suited for newer iris societies and garden clubs.

1994 Portland Iris Convention

1995 York Iris Convention

Iris Trivia: This is a small set of slides and questions that can be used for a fun and informative meeting. (Use of all questions and slides takes at least one hour.)

To Order: Requests for slides should be made well in advance of requested date, preferably six to eight weeks. If optional, specify alternate sets and/or dates. Clearly *print* name and mailing address to whom slides are to be sent. Rental fee is \$10.00 per set, payable to AIS. Only one set allowed for any request date. Slide sets are to be returned next day after viewing by *Priority Mail*.

Note: Affiliates are entitled to one free TB set per year. Send check with request to:

Hooker Nichols
3365 Northaven Rd.
Dallas, TX 75229

Phone: (214) 352-2191

Section Slides Available:

The various Sections of AIS also have slide sets available for rent. These feature irises of each respective group. Rental fee is \$5.00 per set, unless noted otherwise. Requests for these slide sets should be submitted as follows:

Arils and Arilbreds: Order from Scott Jordan, 3500 Avenida Charada NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107. Rental fee \$7.50. Check to Aril Society International.

Dwarf: Dorothy Willott, 26231 Shaker Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122-7111.
Check to Dwarf Iris Society. Rental fee \$7.50.

Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS): Contact Joan Cooper, 212 West Country Rd. C, St. Paul, MN 55113. Rental fee \$7.50. Check to HIPS.

Japanese: Order from John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053.
Check to Japanese Iris Society.

Louisiana: Order from Ann Justice, 202 Briargate Cr, Lafayette LA 70503. Check to Society for Louisiana Irises. Rental fee is \$10.00.

Medians: Contact Terry Aitken, 608 NW 119th St, Vancouver WA 98685. \$10 check to MIS.

Rebloomers: Contact Olive Rice-Waters, 1914 Napa Ave, Berkley, CA 94707. Check to Reblooming Iris Society. Rental fee is \$7.50.

Siberians: Order from Robert Hollingworth, 124 Sherwood Rd E, Williamston, MI 48895. Check to Society for Siberian Irises.

Species: Several sets available. Order from Helga Andrews, 11 Maple Ave, Sudbury MA 01776. Check to SIGNA.

Spurias: To order, contact Patricia Brooks, 102 Jefferson Lane, Ladson, SC 29456. Check to Spuria Iris Society.

AIS Bulletin Ad Rates

Changes for 1999:

In an effort to encourage new commercial growers, the AIS Board voted to eliminate the "extra services" fees. The prices below are unchanged, but now *include* the cost of scanning, text, and layup. The sizes are slightly larger.

Also, we are now using an all-electronic setup with our new printer. As a result, we can no longer simply paste ads on paper. All ads submitted on paper will be scanned. If you have graphic images or logs as part of your ad, it would be best if you send them on a disk, or email them directly to Scott Aitken at <zebra@chcs.com> (payment must still be made through advertising editor).

Shopping Section

found in the back of each *Bulletin*. Placement is roughly alphabetical.

\$42.00	15/16 inch	Rate is for 4 issues.
\$58.00	1 15/16 inch	All ads are 2 1/8 inch wide.
\$73.00	2 15/16 inch	

Display Advertising (Rate is for single issue)

Black & White:

\$35.00	1 inch	1 x 4 1/4
\$46.00	1/4 page	1 7/8 x 4 3/8 (wide), or 3 3/4 x 2 1/8 (tall)
\$58.00	1/3 page	2 1/2 x 4 3/8 (wide), or 7 1/2 x 1 1/2 (tall)
\$81.00	1/2 page	3 3/4 x 4 3/8 (wide), or 7 1/2 x 2 1/8 (tall)
\$104.00	2/3 page	5 x 4 3/8
\$115.00	3/4 page	5 5/8 x 4 3/8
\$138.00	Full page	7 1/2 x 4 3/8

Color:

\$150.00	1/3 page mini ad (if space available)
\$276.00	Full page, interior page.
\$250.00	Full page, interior page, 4 consecutive issue discount.
\$400.00	Full page, inside back cover.
\$425.00	Full page, inside front cover.
\$500.00	Full page, outside back cover.

Terms

Payment is due with ad copy. Ads due: July 15 (Oct. issue), October 15 (Jan. issue), January 15 (Apr. issue), April 15 (Jul. issue). Send ad and payment (payable to AIS) to:

Harold Peters,	(916) 933-3804
2048 Hickock Rd,	fax (916) 933-0878
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762	email: <Harold@directcon.net>

Bulletin of the AIS Shopping Section

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Quality Engraved
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Shopping Section

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Online catalog: www.e-z.net/~aitken

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Price List Sample Material Available

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Send \$1 for Catalog
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Shopping Section

Attention All Iris Collectors !

Computer software to catalog and store your record keeping needs, specifically made for Iris collections.

System minimum: VGA monitor, CPU 486, 586, 686, Pentium, or Pentium II, 8 meg ram, 6 meg disk space, 3.5 floppy. IBM compatible running Windows 95, Windows 98 or Windows NT.

No programming is required.

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\$ 29.95 + \$ 6.00 S/H = Total Cost \$34.95.

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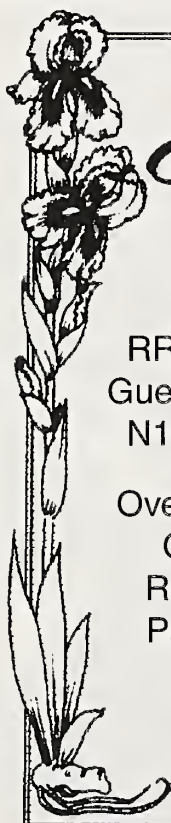
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Shopping Section



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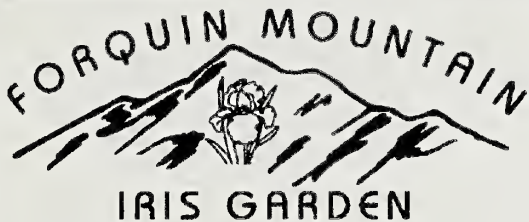
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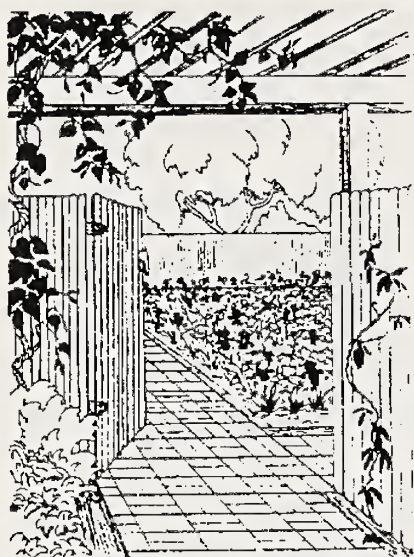
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